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#### OUR DIARY FOR 1902.

THE binders are rapidly proceeding with their work on the copies of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1902, for home subscribers, and as we shall have few spare copies this year we strongly advise those whose

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS EXPIRE TO-DAY

to send up their half-sovereigns to our Publisher at once. The contents of the DIARY are worth more than that to those who refer to it whenever they are in need. The I.R. officers are now very brisk in regard to the stamping of medicines. Knowing this, we have in the new DIARY treated the Medicine Stamp Acts more fully. This also applies to pharmacy and trade law generally.

#### ANOTHER POINT—

Each copy of the DIARY sent out (home or abroad) contains two coupons for prizes amounting to not less than Ten Guineas for those who fill in the cards in the most consistent way, as fully detailed therein. We ask all subscribers to give this matter attention. They are sure to extract some pleasure from the process, or by assisting any of their employes or children to fill in the cards, and the guineas may go their way. Each of the home copies will also contain a most useful card for public notice in regard to the chemist's business. We shall refer more fully to this later.

#### Summary.

THE scarcity of senega is commented upon in an Editorial note (p. 881).

A RELIABLE TEST FOR POTASSIUM is described by Dr. Dobbin on p. 862.

THE first of the analytical tournament competitions is reported on p. 862.

SOME interesting South African pharmaceutical experience is given on p. 871.

PLYMOUTH PHARMACISTS are pessimistic as to the future of pharmacy (p. 874).

THE law as to shares in recipes has occupied the attention of the High Court this week (p. 889).

MR. SAMUEL ROBERTS (of May, Roberts & Co.) is the subject of this week's cartoon and rhyme (p. 878).

CHRISTMAS PHOTOGRAPHIC MOUNTS are a seasonable side-line. How to push the trade is told on p. 876.

THE STORAGE OF PETROLEUM is being carefully looked after at present, as cases reported on p. 864 show.

A DRUG-STORE KEEPER in the West of London has been fined for selling Gregory's powder made with chalk (p. 890).

THE report of the Committee which took evidence as to the use of preservatives and colouring in food is summarised on p. 880.

AT the annual dinner of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy Mr. A. C. Wootton deplored excessive examination in pharmacy (p. 874).

THE Indian Government will buy 3,500 copies of the Indian and Colonial Addendum to the B.P. if certain alterations are made upon it (p. 894).

MR. NAYLOR is to get a testimonial consequent on his retirement from the secretaryship of the British Pharmaceutical Conference (p. 865).

PROFESSOR CUTLER, in his second lecture on trade-mark law, was severe in regard to the laxity in registration of so-called invented names (p. 877).

THE fiftieth anniversary of M. Berthelot's entry into science was fittingly celebrated in Paris last Sunday. Our correspondent there describes the historic occasion (p. 868).

MR. W. H. KERR, the head dispenser at Bloemfontein Refugee Camp (formerly of Bond Street), is charged with the manslaughter of three children by a dispensing error (p. 870).

THE ESSENTIAL OIL of *Asarum canadense* was the principal subject before the Chemical Society last week, Dr. F. B. Power and a colleague contributing the paper (p. 884).

THE obituary columns are heavy this week. Amongst the names occurring are Dr. Pickel Müller, Mr. T. M. Deighton (Bridgnorth), Mr. J. T. Nelson (Blyth), Mr. J. Bowerbank (Cockermouth) and Mr. F. Pafford (Blackburn) (p. 875).

MR. GILMOUR, in a paper read to the Glasgow Assistants' Association, gave an interesting history of the rise and fall of the doctor's-shop element in Glasgow pharmacy. Now there are more shops owned by chemists and druggists than by doctors (p. 888).

MR. D'EYNCOURT, one of the Metropolitan magistrates, has got into a queer fix over methylated soap liniment. He refused to hear certain evidence for Boots, Cash Chemists (Eastern, Limited), and convicted them, but heard like evidence for Parke's Drug-stores (Limited), then adjourned both cases (p. 889).

BUSINESS remains extremely dull. Quinine has a firmer tendency in second hands. Shellac has fluctuated considerably. Cod-liver oil still tends upward; and calabar beans are at famine prices. Spermaceti is lower. Chlorate of potash and foreign tartaric acid are easier; and potashes are dearer (p. 901).

A MEETING was held in London on Wednesday to consider a proposal to form a Metropolitan Chemists' Association. Leaders of the Pharmaceutical Society seemed to be afraid of the thing, and the Western Chemists' Association insists on standing by itself. A committee was appointed to carry the matter further (p. 885).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL is in session. So far the most interesting event has been the appearance before the Council of seven West of Scotland doctors, who were charged with infamous professional conduct in respect that they had employed unqualified assistants who broke the law by selling poisons. The doctors promised not to do it again, and were admonished (p. 894).



## Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, PH.D.

### REPORTS.

THE powder distributed to students on October 30 contained 5 parts of barium chromate, 4 parts of ordinary sodium phosphate (disodium hydrogen phosphate), and 1 part of ordinary potassium arsenate (potassium dihydrogen arsenate).

The calculated composition of such a mixture is—

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Ba ... ..               | 27.1             |
| K ... ..                | 2.2              |
| Na ... ..               | 5.1              |
| H ... ..                | 0.2              |
| CrO <sub>4</sub> ... .. | 22.9             |
| AsO <sub>4</sub> ... .. | 7.7              |
| PO <sub>4</sub> ... ..  | 10.6             |
| H <sub>2</sub> O ... .. | 24.1             |
|                         | <hr/> 99.9 <hr/> |

The mixture also contained, as impurities, small quantities of chloride and of an insoluble siliceous residue, and very minute traces of an ammonium salt.

Samples of the powder were distributed to 164 students, and 75 reports were received in response.

The failures in the detection of the several constituents of the powder were:—(a) Metallic radicals: barium, 35; potassium, 24; sodium, 6. (b) Acid radicals: chromic, 1; arsenic, 33; phosphoric, 21. In 19 reports the detection of water was not mentioned.

The present exercise was specially devised to put our correspondents to the test in several respects, and the trial has proved to be a somewhat severe one, as the heavy failures in the detection of certain constituents of the powder testify.

Flame and borax-bead tests in careful hands revealed the presence of sodium, barium, and chromium, and probably also that of potassium, whilst the colour of the powder suggested, and the behaviour on heating with concentrated hydrochloric acid practically proved, that the chromium was present as chromate. The information so obtained, although valuable, did not, however, do anything to suggest the real analytical difficulties of the exercise, due to the presence of arsenate and phosphate side by side, and to the presence of chromate along with phosphate. The complications to which the latter combination frequently gives rise were entirely avoided in the present instance by those students who took advantage of the loop-hole intentionally left for them, and separated the soluble phosphate from the insoluble chromate by extraction with water. The residue left after this treatment was practically pure barium chromate, and, as such, was very easily dealt with. The aqueous solution contained potassium and sodium, and the radicals of phosphoric and arsenic acids, and it also was capable of being tolerably easily dealt with, although very few students succeeded in treating it quite satisfactorily. Some found the radical of arsenic acid in it, and did not test specially for that of phosphoric acid, while others found the latter and did not search for the former. The failures here, and their cause, are typical of one of the weakest features in the work of a number of our correspondents. Having detected one metallic or acid radical, the reactions of which are capable of explaining a certain observation, they are rather apt to presume that another radical which might also give rise to similar phenomena is unlikely to be present, and they do not even test for it. It

is very unsafe to act upon any such presumption, as the present exercise proves. It is but fair to add that some correspondents dealt with both arsenate and phosphate in a thoroughly exhaustive manner, which left nothing to be desired.

The aqueous solution contained both sodium and potassium. The latter was present in considerably smaller quantity than the former, and we note several failures to detect it. The detection of potassium in small quantity and in relatively dilute solutions presents a common difficulty to analytical students who have not been carefully trained to observe all the necessary precautions in applying the platinic-chloride and the flame tests. We can very strongly recommend to the notice of our correspondents the following test for potassium which was introduced by A. Carnot\* so long ago as 1876, but which has never been at all generally adopted, and even yet is scarcely known.

### A Delicate Test for Potassium.

Carnot's test for potassium depends upon the facts that bismuth potassium thiosulphate,  $K_3Bi(S_2O_3)_3$ , possesses a characteristic lemon-yellow colour, and that it is insoluble in absolute alcohol. To carry out the test, mix one drop of solution of bismuth nitrate with one drop of solution of sodium thiosulphate and 10 c.c. or so of absolute alcohol. Then add a few drops of the solution to be tested for potassium. In presence of potassium, an immediate, or almost immediate, separation of the double thiosulphate, as a yellow flocculent precipitate will take place. The reaction is very delicate, and is applicable even in the presence of ammonium, sodium, lithium, or magnesium salts, so that the filtrate from the barium group, unless very dilute, may be tested at once for potassium. As the precipitate is readily soluble in water, it is obvious that much of this liquid must not be present. It is advisable, therefore, that the solution to be tested, if very dilute, should first be evaporated to a small bulk. The reaction is capable of being applied for quantitative purposes.

The failures to detect the arsenic-acid radical were mainly due to the omission to heat the original solution while hydrogen sulphide was being passed in, and to the assumption that, because chromate in the presence of hot hydrochloric acid and of hydrogen sulphide yields a precipitate of sulphur, the yellow precipitate obtained consisted of sulphur only. A number of students who had the arsenious sulphide and sulphur precipitate in their hands threw it away unexamined.

The failures to detect barium mostly arose through the non-detection of phosphate, and the consequent precipitation of barium phosphate along with the chromium.

### PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to JOHN G. MURDOCH, c/o Wilkinson & Simpson (Limited), Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Second Prize has been awarded to ANNIE M. BARR, 57 Kempoch Street, Gourrock.

*First Prize.*—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

*Second Prize.*—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

\* *Comptes Rendus*, 83 (1876), 338 and 390.



## MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

|                              |    |                     |    |
|------------------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| John G. Murdoch (1st prize)  | 96 | J. M. ..            | 68 |
| Annie M. Barr (2nd prize)    | 92 | Alex. T. Hope       | 67 |
| N. McPherson                 | 91 | Ernest              | 65 |
| Thallophyta                  | 90 | Wilkeus             | 65 |
| Edinburgum                   | 89 | Brassica            | 64 |
| Vep                          | 88 | Lucifer             | 64 |
| W. A. R.                     | 87 | Piper Long          | 64 |
| Tungsten                     | 86 | Blende              | 62 |
| Cribden                      | 83 | Iris                | 62 |
| Excelsior                    | 83 | Lysauder            | 62 |
| Jas. R. Stott                | 82 | Rana                | 62 |
| S. V. R. (Newcastle-on-Tyne) | 82 | Cymene              | 61 |
| J. F. Ward                   | 82 | Sisylana            | 61 |
| W. H., A.-in-M.              | 81 | Westminster         | 60 |
| Esserine                     | 80 | Aylestoue           | 59 |
| Nisus                        | 80 | F. T. Jewson        | 59 |
| A. R. Thornevell             | 80 | Photo               | 59 |
| A. C. Denton                 | 79 | Minor               | 58 |
| Tanglewood                   | 79 | A. B.               | 57 |
| Eugenol                      | 79 | M. S.               | 57 |
| Anilin                       | 78 | Loo                 | 56 |
| Gueiss                       | 78 | Systema             | 55 |
| Nemo                         | 78 | C. C. D. D.         | 54 |
| Nestor                       | 78 | Glacialine          | 54 |
| Angus Scott                  | 75 | Pekham              | 52 |
| Ardowa                       | 75 | Cinchonidiue        | 50 |
| Acetum                       | 74 | O. C. Geenty        | 48 |
| Aloes                        | 74 | S.V.R. (Manchester) | 48 |
| Felix Mas                    | 74 | N. E. S. C.         | 45 |
| Inception                    | 74 | Granger             | 42 |
| Manna Flake                  | 74 | Studention          | 42 |
| Avoca                        | 72 | W. A. M.            | 42 |
| Carolus II.                  | 72 | Akarana             | 40 |
| W. Maxwell                   | 70 | H. T. H.            | 36 |
| Phenol                       | 70 | Joseph M. Johnson   | 31 |
| J. R. Huck                   | 69 | Jacobus             | 30 |
| Aurum I.                     | 68 | R. L. Boyd          | —  |

[One paper was received from Newcastle-on-Tyne without the sender's name or full address. It will still be admitted to compete in the tournament, if the rules of the Corner are complied with.]

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

## Special Memoranda, suggested by this month's reports:—

1. Make certain that your solution of ammonium molybdate is in working order by testing its behaviour with a very dilute solution of a phosphate.

2. The potassium hydroxide used in testing for aluminium must be free from aluminate and silicate. If used as a solution this should be freshly prepared, and porcelain vessels alone should be employed for the analytical operations. Solution of potassium hydroxide which has been preserved or heated in glass vessels always contains some silicate, and this may give rise to reactions resembling those of aluminium.

3. In dealing with phosphate mixtures, note that barium-group metals and magnesium must be searched for both in the ammonium chloride and ammonia precipitate and in the filtrate from it, unless the latter still contains phosphates. In the latter case these metals can only be present in the precipitate.

4. Note that barium chloride and barium nitrate, although soluble in water and dilute acids, are almost insoluble in concentrated hydrochloric acid and in concentrated nitric acid respectively.

## Special Note.

Students who use assumed names are requested to adhere to them throughout the competition.

JOHN G. MURDOCH.—You are to be congratulated on your success in obtaining the film-test for arsenic. It was rather difficult to obtain either metallic or oxide film in quantity.

EDINBURGUM.—The potassium present in the powder was more than a trace. It should have been tested for in the solution evaporated down after addition of ammonium carbonate, and not merely by means of the flame-test in the original substance.

W. A. R.—Solution of cupric sulphate would not, as you seem to have supposed it would, convert yellow arsenious sulphide

into green cupric arsenite. You did not take steps to ensure that the last traces of arsenic were removed prior to testing for the phosphoric-acid radical.

EXCELSIOR.—In presence of both chromate and arsenate it was not possible to obtain the yellow precipitate you record as having been produced by adding silver nitrate to a portion of the sodium carbonate solution for acid radicals which had been neutralised by means of nitric acid.

JAMES R. STOTT.—The absence of arsenic was not proved by the non-production of a sublimate when the powder was simply heated in a dry tube. Potassium arsenate does not yield any sublimate when treated in this way in absence of a suitable reducing-agent.

S. V. R. (Newcastle).—You failed to obtain any precipitate on adding hydrogen sulphide either to the aqueous extract after acidulating it with hydrochloric acid, or to the hydrochloric-acid solution of the residue insoluble in water. With proper precautions precipitates should have been obtained in both places. After adding hydrogen sulphide, heat should always be applied and some time permitted to elapse before it is concluded that no precipitate is going to make its appearance.

W. H., A.-IN-M.—Note that boiling retards instead of accelerating the precipitation of magnesium ammonium phosphate.

ESSERINE.—Ferric chloride produces yellowish-white precipitates both with arsenates and with phosphates in presence of acetic acid, so that the formation of the precipitate you obtained in this way did not prove the presence of phosphate.

NISUS.—In order to test for potassium you added platinum chloride to "a portion of the original salt dissolved in alcohol." This can scarcely be considered satisfactory as a large part of the powder must have remained insoluble in the alcohol. The precipitate you mistook for barium sulphate consisted of barium chloride or barium nitrate, or of both of them. Both are practically insoluble in boiling concentrated nitric acid, although moderately soluble in water and in dilute nitric acid.

A. C. DENTON.—Examine the behaviour of solutions of an arsenate and of an arsenite on the addition of ammonio-cupric sulphate. You will find that the arsenate does not yield a precipitate resembling Scheele's green. The latter is obtained from the arsenite alone.

EUGENOL.—The white pungent vapour you observed upon heating the powder with concentrated sulphuric acid was simply due to the acid, and would have been given off in absence of the powder. You did not establish with certainty the presence of the radical of phosphoric acid, since that of arsenic acid also gives a yellow precipitate with ammonium molybdate.

ANGUS SCOTT.—You merely state that arsenic was proved absent, but omit to say how this was supposed to be done; hence it is impossible to ascertain how you failed to detect it. It is difficult to explain your remark that a colourless solution was obtained on boiling the original powder with hydrochloric acid.

ARDOWA.—The red precipitate which you obtained on adding silver nitrate to the portion of the sodium-carbonate extract which had been neutralised with nitric acid, consisted mainly of silver chromate. It also contained silver arsenate, which is brown, not red.

ACETUM.—After proving the presence of chromium and the absence of aluminium and of iron in the precipitate which might contain these metallic radicals along with phosphates of the barium group and of magnesium, you omitted to examine for the latter substances. It was in consequence of this omission that you failed to detect barium.

ALOES.—In applying the test for ammonium, use a little of the solid substance, not a solution of it.

INCEPTION.—Test your chlorine-water for the presence of traces of sulphuric acid—a very common impurity in this reagent unless carefully prepared.

AVOCA.—Testing for barium by adding potassium bichromate to a solution containing free hydrochloric acid is clearly shown by the present analysis to be a very unsatisfactory proceeding. You do not say how you proved the ammonium-molybdate precipitate to be due to phosphate in the known presence of arsenate.

W. MAXWELL.—Why do you test for potassium in the group-precipitate produced by ammonia? If thoroughly washed this precipitate should be practically free from potassium.

PHENOL.—Use sodium hydrogen tartrate rather than tartaric acid in testing for potassium. See reply to "W. H., A. in M."

BRASSICA.—You do not offer any explanation of how the addition of acetic acid and sodium phosphate is to prove the presence or absence of a phosphate in the filtrate from the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate. Note that ammonia does not give a green precipitate with a chroma



**WILKENS.**—You pronounce the powder to be "insoluble" in water, but you do not appear to have tried to ascertain whether any part of it dissolved. Note that the precipitate of magnesium ammonium phosphate is finely crystalline rather than flocculent.

**LUCIFER.**—Two hours was insufficient time in which to carry out a satisfactory analysis of the powder.

**PIPER LONG.**—You will require to revise your method of testing for acid radicals, as it is incomplete and otherwise faulty. Kindly send your address with our next report.

**BLÉNDE.**—You do not appear to be aware that lead acetate does not produce a precipitate of lead chromate when it is added to a chromic salt. The chromium must be present in the form of a chromate. Your report does not contain any account of a systematic examination for acid radicals.

**IRIS.**—We cannot suggest an explanation for your failure to detect any metallic radical in the portion of the powder insoluble in water. It consisted of barium chromate.

**LYSANDER.**—You seem to have omitted to test for magnesium.

**RANA.**—The "red-brown ring" which you attributed to the presence of nitrate was really due to the formation of bichromate. It was unfortunate that you did not test for the radical of phosphoric acid in the aqueous solution, where it was present, while you tested for it in the acid solution of the residue, from which it was absent. We failed to obtain the red fumes you report as liberated by heating the powder with sulphuric acid.

**SISYLANA.**—It is only arsenates, and not arsenites, which require to be reduced before they yield a precipitate of arsenious sulphide on the addition of hydrochloric acid and hydrogen sulphide.

**WESTMINSTER.**—The formation of a greenish-black precipitate on the addition of ammonium hydrosulphide does not indicate the presence of iron. Ferrous sulphide formed in this way is quite black. Sodium carbonate is usually preferable to sodium hydroxide in the preparation of a solution for examination for acid radicals.

**F. T. JEWSON.**—See reply to "Acetum."

**PHOTO.**—You omitted to apply any test for potassium, and you neglected to give a summary of the results of your analysis. The latter omission wastes our time—and loses marks.

**MINOR.**—Your patience in repeatedly treating the substance with water until it all dissolved merits some praise. The barium chromate, against which your endeavours were directed, requires some 20,000 times its weight of water to dissolve it.

**LOO.**—The dark-red appearance of the borax bead when hot was merely due to the passage of the bead through a particular stage of red-heat.

**SYSTEMA.**—Let your motto be more apparent in your testing for acid radicals, and make this department more exhaustive.

**C. C. D. D.**—You did not obtain any proof of the presence of the calcium phosphate which you report to be present, and you have omitted any examination for acid radicals.

**PEEKHAM.**—Your examination for acid radicals is of a very slender kind, and is quite insufficient.

**O. C. GEENTY.**—We have been unable to obtain an evolution of sulphurous anhydride upon heating the powder with dilute sulphuric acid, and also to understand how you interpreted your supposed success in this experiment as indicating the presence of an arsenate. The darkening observed on heating the powder with concentrated sulphuric acid was due to the presence of chromate, not of citrate. Kindly send your address with your next report.

**S. V. R. (Manchester).**—After showing that the filtrate from hydrogen sulphide contained the radical of phosphoric acid, you state that you added the group-reagents for the iron and barium groups without obtaining any precipitates. Then, on adding sodium phosphate, you report a white precipitate, due to magnesium. You must try to clear up this analytical discrepancy for yourself.

**AKARANA.**—You did not apply any test that could have revealed the presence of phosphate.

**JACOBUS.**—You may take it that the metallic and acid radicals included in the "Corner" analytical exercises are, generally speaking, confined to those mentioned in the Minor syllabus, but we do not give any undertaking that this general rule may not be departed from.

**R. L. BOYD.**—It is not possible to attach a numerical value to the bare results of your analysis, in the absence of any of the evidence upon which these results are based. A description of the methods you employ must also be given.

## English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

Cream of tartar and milk of sulphur are being purchased by the Birmingham drugs-inspectors.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Acts inspectors in the East-Riding of Yorkshire were sampling paregoric-elixir last week.

At last week's meeting of the St. Albans Board of Guardians the Chairman congratulated Mr. A. E. Ekins, pharmaceutical chemist, a member of the board, on his election as Mayor of the borough.

At Manchester on November 22, Messrs. J. Buckley & Co., dyers and cleaners, were fined 10s. and costs for storing benzolene without a licence. Two other dealers were mulcted in a like penalty.

King Edward VII. has resigned the Chancellorship of the University of Wales, and has assumed the honorary title of Protector thereof. The Prince of Wales is to be asked to succeed his father as Chancellor.

Henry Heath, of Lydd, Kent, the undischarged bankrupt, is now asking for price-lists. His postcard begins, "You may send me to Lydd Station." Better not send him anything at all until hard cash accompanies his orders.

At Manchester Assizes on November 22, Edward Fawthorpe (33), charged with embezzling money belonging to his late employers, Messrs. Thorley, trading as Canby & Co., chemists and druggists, Pendleton, was found not guilty, and discharged.

At the Salford Quarter Sessions on November 22, James Hulme (36), a clerk, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for embezzling various sums of money belonging to his late employers, Messrs. Thos. Southern & Sons, Wheathill Chemical-works, Pendleton.

At Sleaford County Court on November 20, Mr. Michael Cole Summers, chemist and druggist, Heckington, obtained from Frank Hedges, of Coningsby, 26l. 0s. 11d., and costs, as settlement of an account between plaintiff and defendant with regard to the carrying-on of a market-garden.

The taxation of costs arising from the case of Wright Crossley & Co. and the Royal Baking-powder Company of New York, came before Mr. Justice Byrne on November 25. It was said that the taxing-master had proceeded on a wrong principle Mr. Justice Byrne is to consult him about it.

The Board of Agriculture have issued, gratis, a leaflet giving directions respecting the winter washing of fruit-trees. For this purpose a wash of caustic alkali is recommended as a spray to be used about the middle of February, when the eggs of noxious insects are most likely to be affected.

At Westminster Police Court on November 22, David Polly and William Bell again appeared to answer charges of stealing goods, including Scott's emulsion and other patent medicines, from the Army and Navy Stores. In the result Bell was bound over, and Polly was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

At the Neath County Court on November 21, Mr. J. G. Isaac, chemist and druggist, Neath, brought an action against Mr. A. Bush, india-rubber merchant, for the recovery of 40l. 4s. 6d. for alleged misrepresentation in respect of the purchase of a house. The Judge found for the plaintiff, awarding him the full amount claimed, with costs.

At Worship Street Police Court on November 21, Barnett Abraham, of 20 Spital Square, E., was fined 4l., and 23s. costs, for keeping an excessive quantity of petroleum and naphtha solution without a licence. On defendant's premises were found 10 gals. of petroleum (in two cans) and 4 cwt. of naphtha rubber-solution in the basement, and in another place were discovered eight more 5-gal. vessels full of petroleum, and some more rubber-solution in two vessels.



At Billericay, near Brentwood, on November 27, James Dorking (41), a gamekeeper, was fined 6l. 6s. and 30s. costs for laying poisoned meat (flat-fish impregnated with strychnine) at Dornham in May and September, whereby three foxhounds were poisoned.

It is stated that Taylors' Drug-stores Company (Limited) are to take possession of the Leeds Coliseum at the beginning of next year, for the purpose of using it as their central offices and warehouse. The company have nearly one hundred establishments throughout the country, and have been greatly in need of such a central place.

At Watford Petty Sessions on November 26, William Henry Gee (33), chemist's assistant, was charged with stealing various articles from his employer, Mr. Montagu Bateman, chemist. Inspector Boutell deposed to the articles being found amongst prisoner's clothes, stowed in about sixty socks. Mr. Bateman identified the articles, and prisoner was remanded.

At a meeting of the fellows and members of the Royal College of Surgeons on November 21, Dr. Danford Thomas moved a resolution expressing the hope that the Council would support the Bill of the British Medical Association when it comes before Parliament, as something, he maintained, was necessary for the protection of the public from quack nostrums.

Mr. M. A. Adams, the Kent county analyst, states that last quarter he analysed fifty-five samples of drugs, five of which were adulterated—one each of olive oil, linseed-meal, spirit of nitrous ether, mercury ointment, and citrate of magnesia. The so-called olive oil consisted entirely of cotton-seed oil, the linseed-meal had been deprived of its natural oil to the extent of 80 per cent., the mercury ointment was 20 per cent. under B.P. strength, and the citrate of magnesia was entirely devoid of magnesium salt.

At the Mansion House Police Court on November 23, William Hovenden Courtenay (44), provision-merchant; Fredk. Gray; and Alfred Beeson, commission-agent, were remanded on a charge of conspiring to defraud Bovril (Limited) and another firm. Mr. Budden, who prosecuted, said Courtenay traded as Courtenay & Sons, at 5 St. John's Street, Smithfield, and they alleged that they had branches in Manchester, Liverpool, and Ireland; Gray was Hewitt, Gray & Co., of Old Trinity Street, and Beeson was Bullen Brothers, of 19 St. Dunstan's Hill.

#### Testimonial to Mr. W. A. H. Naylor, F.I.C., F.C.S.

In connection with Mr. Naylor's retirement from the secretaryship to the British Pharmaceutical Conference, it is proposed to present him with a testimonial in recognition of his valuable services. A committee, consisting of Messrs. G. Claridge Druce, John Attfield, S. R. Atkins, N. H. Martin, J. C. Umney, Edmund White, E. Saville Peck, and F. Ransom, has been appointed to collect funds and arrange details. It is suggested that the testimonial take the form of an address, to which will be attached the name of every subscriber to the fund, without any mention of the sum subscribed. The address will be accompanied by some article of personal or domestic use. Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. C. Umney, 50 Southwark Street, London, S.E.

#### The Poisons Committee.

At the meeting of this Committee held last week the following witnesses were examined:—Mr. J. W. Sutherland (Frazier & Green, chemists, Glasgow); Mr. G. T. W. News-holme, President of the Pharmaceutical Society; Mr. W. Gowan Cross, Shrewsbury; Mr. C. B. Allen, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society; Mr. R. F. Crawford, of the Board of Agriculture; Mr. W. G. Whiffen, manufacturing chemist; and Mr. Michael Carteighe (Dinneford & Co.), member of Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. The Committee adjourned to December 17. It is expected that the Committee will be in a position to present its report to Parliament in January.

#### Royal Society Council.

In our issue of November 16, page 790, we printed the list of the new Council of the Royal Society. Another list has since been issued in which the names of Sir John E.

Gorst, M.P., and Professor H. H. Turner (Oxford), take the places of Sir John Murray and Mr. Frank McClean (Tunbridge Wells).

#### Institute of Chemistry.

Part II. of the *Proceedings* of the Council for the current year has just been issued. It deals with the steps taken by the Council in regard to the appointment of a public analyst for the City of London. The Council's objection to the inadequacy of the remuneration (200l. per annum, as a minimum) was not accepted by the City's committee, and the President of the Local Government Board declined to interfere. The Council has also protested to the Board against the appointments of medical officer and public analyst being combined in one person, and called the Board's attention to the fact that Section 13 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, clearly indicates that the medical officer and public analyst should be two distinct persons. The Board has replied that it does not encourage the holding of the two offices by the same person, but declined to lay down a general rule. Reference is also made in the report to two legal decisions—one dealing with analytical reports "not for publication," and the other a High Court case, in which it was contended that the certificate of a public analyst was invalid, because it omitted to state the weight of the sample sent, a contention which was refuted by the Court. Reference is also made to the Governmental Butter Committee, and full particulars are given of the examinations held during the year, which show that out of forty-three candidates examined for the Associateship thirty-five passed. The papers set at the examinations are also given.

#### The English "Double Qual."

At the annual meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons held on November 21, Mr. H. G. Howse, the President, referred to the disputes with the General Medical Council and the Colleges stating that the Colleges had no course but to expunge from their regulations the requirement that candidates should be registered as medical students by the Medical Council. He proceeded to say:—

The regulations as now altered correspond in their most important provision with those of the University of London, which require that a student shall attend at a recognised medical school and hospital for four years from the date of passing the Preliminary Scientific (M.B.) examination. The Royal Colleges, however, improve on this, not only by requiring that students shall receive scientific instruction for a year subsequent to the Preliminary examination in Arts, but also by taking care that such instruction shall be received, if not at medical schools or Universities, at institutions which they have themselves ascertained to be competent to give it. The new regulations make no alteration in the course of study, nor do they enable the student to present himself for examination at an earlier date than under the old regulations, but they provide that students shall be at liberty to receive instruction during the preliminary scientific year at institutions which the Royal Colleges have recognised, whether those institutions have been "approved" by the General Medical Council or not. The regulations do not admit of any professional study being recognised as part of the five years' curriculum which is taken before passing the required Preliminary examination in Arts.

Mr. Howse also referred to the decrease in the number of medical and dental students registered from 1,973 in 1899 to 1,712 in 1900, and stated that the matter is under the consideration of the two Colleges. There was some opposition, led by Mr. George Brown, to the adoption of the report which, however, failed to carry a majority.

#### State-aided Education.

Blackpool is not a backward place by any means, and it has provided facilities through the Technical Instruction Committee for the study of chemistry; nevertheless, when the class opened recently only three students attended. The local Chemists' Association has sent out a circular to registered chemists in the district about the matter in which occurs the following paragraph:—

It is felt that this disgraceful state of things need only be made known to be rectified, and that as this generous provision was made chiefly on account of the large number of chemists' apprentices and assistants in the district, in order to retain and increase their advantages, you are urgently requested to use every means in your power to induce your assistants, or other persons you have any influence over, to use this unique opportunity.



### A Pharmacist on the Holy Land.

Mr. Thomas Barclay delivered a lantern-lecture in the Priory Rooms, Birmingham, on November 26, on a tour in the Holy Land. The lecture included many personal references, and mention was made of the students' riots which have recently taken place at Athens over the translation of the Greek Testament, and also to the Zionist movement for bringing about the return of the Jews to Jerusalem. The audience, numbered between five and six hundred (mostly employes of Southall Brothers & Barclay, Limited). Mr. Alfred Southall, F.C.S., occupied the chair, and there were also present Mr. Wilfred F. Southall (secretary to the company), Mr. John Barclay, B.Sc., Mr. A. William Southall, and Mr. Thomas Barclay, jun.

### Young Chemists' Association.

Under this title Mr. John T. Usher, 44 Wandsworth Road, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, is forming an association of apprentices and junior assistants. The object aimed at is mutual aid in studies and discussion of trade matters. A course of lectures is contemplated.

### White Oils Vindicated.

Mr. J. Moore, chemist and druggist, Fosse Road, Leicester, was called as a witness at an inquest held on November 19 on the body of Ellen Wiltford, who died from blood-poisoning after treating an injured knee with white oils supplied by Mr. Moore. Witness informed the Coroner that he had sold gallons of the oil during the past sixteen years, and had never before had any trouble with it. The doctor who attended deceased stated that it depended on the strength of the ammonia and the way in which it was applied, whether its application would be likely to produce such a wound as deceased had on her leg. There would be no danger if it was applied to unbroken skin. The Coroner (Mr. R. Harvey) said that Mr. Moore's statement was perfectly satisfactory, and a verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

### Saffron as a Remedy.

At an inquest before the Manchester City Coroner (Mr. Smelt) on November 22, one of the witnesses in a case of death from measles, where no doctor had been called in, said saffron had been given to the deceased. The resident medical officer from the Ancoats Hospital happened to be in court, and the Coroner asked him if there was any virtue in saffron. The doctor said it would produce sweating if given in large doses, but it is not a practical medicine. Coroner: It is a common medicine among the working-classes, but its real value as a medicine is a popular error.

### Fire.

Last week a fire broke out in the office of a solicitor in Neville Street, Southport, which is situated directly over the shop of Mr. J. B. Foggitt, pharmaceutical chemist. The outbreak was subdued in a few minutes, but a considerable quantity of water dripped through into Mr. Foggitt's shop, and damage estimated at 20*l.* was done.

### The Alleged Long Firm.

James Hodges (49), agent, Henry Charles Bedding (32), described as a chemist, and Christian Robert Lea (42), dispenser, were again brought up on remand at Worship Street Police Court on November 26, charged with conspiracy to obtain, and with obtaining, large quantities of goods by false pretences and with intent to defraud. The evidence in connection with goods which it is alleged prisoners had obtained from Vinolia (Limited) and from Messrs. Butler & Crispe appeared in last week's issue, page 833. The evidence to connect the prisoners with the receipt of goods and their presence at the different premises in Mare Street and Mile End Road was now continued, carmen in the employment of Messrs. Butler & Crispe deposing to the delivery of goods at different places, and their receipt by Bedding or Lea. Mr. J. H. Matthews, chemist and druggist, High Road, Leyton, said he also carried on business at 167 Cambridge Road. The prisoner Bedding had been in his employment as manager of that shop from October, 1899, till April last. The witness was aware that he engaged in the

manufacture of a hair-restorer, which the prisoner told him he was the sole proprietor of. It was known as "Gordon's Hair-restorer," and the announcement of it appeared on the shop-window by the witness's permission. The prisoner resigned his situation with witness. He had since heard of him at Mare Street, but he knew nothing of the business matters there. Replying to the Magistrate, who pointed out that the prisoners' papers were headed "Sinclair & Co., Cash Dispensing Chemists," the witness said that by the use of the word "chemist" he should understand that the man was a qualified chemist, whilst a mere title such as "Sinclair's Drug-store" would not lead him to think so. Arthur Jackson, who traded as the Amalgamated Society of Opticians, received a communication in June last from Sinclair & Co., and went to Mare Street, Hackney, where he saw Lea. On asking for Mr. Sinclair, Lea said he was away from London, but he (Lea) was the manager. He said his name was Wilson. An appointment was made to meet Sinclair on the 13th, and when the witness went, Lea, still as Wilson, said the matter was left in his hands, and he could give the order for goods the witness dealt in. "Sinclair"—the prisoner Hodges—came in while the witness was there, and confirmed an order "Wilson," or Lea, gave for spectacles, optical glasses, &c., to the value of 21*l.* 6*s.* The goods were supplied, but no cheque being received witness went after three days, and then saw Bedding in the shop with Lea. Bedding was introduced as succeeding Lea (Wilson) as manager as the other one was going to manage a new business at Leyton. He was induced to leave eight opera-glasses to the value of 3*l.* When he returned at the end of three days Bedding said Sinclair had taken the glasses away. The witness never got any money nor his goods back. Later he heard of "Booth, Son, & Co." at Mile End Road, and he went there, finding Bedding in the shop. Bedding said he was manager and had nothing to do with the Mare Street shop. The witness then pointed out some of the goods he had supplied to Mare Street in the shop-window, and Bedding said he had had them given him. The prisoners subjected the witness to considerable cross-examination, Hodges eliciting that he said he was an ex-army doctor and had a pension, and that he and his brother financed the business of Sinclair & Co. Bedding said the witness had created a scandal at the place, and the witness retorted that he had openly called Bedding a swindler, and on the two occasions he called at the Mile End Road shop gave Bedding a piece of his mind.

A further remand was granted, counsel saying that he only proposed to take two more cases, though there were dozens, goods to the value of 200*l.* being involved.

### The Workhouse Tender.

A long discussion took place at the meeting of the Derby Board of Guardians on November 19 on the tenders for the supply of drugs to the Workhouse. Two tenders had been received—one from Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co., wholesale manufacturing chemists, Derby, and another from Mr. F. P. Pemberton, chemist and druggist, Derby. One of the Guardians wished to know whether the first-mentioned firm were duly qualified chemists, as if they were not they were ineligible to tender, in accordance with the advertisement. In his opinion, it was scarcely fair to the other chemists in the town to have to compete with such a large firm. He moved that the tender of Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co. be rejected. Several members looked upon this as rather casting a reflection upon a respectable firm, and on a division the motion was lost, both tenders being referred to the Dispensary Committee.

### "Treated the Case most Judiciously."

At an inquest which was held at Portsmouth on Wednesday afternoon, Edward Wilcox, assistant and dispenser with the Timothy White Company, came in for general commendation for his conduct in a poisoning-case. A woman on Saturday afternoon swallowed perchloride of mercury. Her husband ran for the nearest medical man, but as he was not at home he turned into the Fratton Road branch of the Timothy White Company. Mr. Wilcox went back with him, and administered with effect an emetic of mustard-and-water then gave her white of an egg, and remained in attendance until Dr. Mulvaney came and took charge of the case.



The woman died several hours later, but Dr. Mulvaney informed the Coroner that Mr. Wilcox had treated the case most judiciously and skilfully, and both Coroner and jury commended him upon the tact, ability, and kindness he had displayed throughout.

#### Poisoning-cases.

Besides the case of mercuric-chloride poisoning reported above, seven other fatalities have been reported during the past week. Three were with ammonia solution, oil of tar, and carbolic acid taken or given in error; one was with an overdose of chloral mixture, and another with laudanum, while two were suicides, strychnine and carbolic acid being the agents employed.

### Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Theft-charge.

Two little boys were on November 16 remanded at Belfast Police Court on a charge of stealing some Pears' soap and embrocation from the shop of Messrs. Campbell & Doyle. The boys' sister fired an air-gun at the police when they went to arrest the lads.

#### Irish Worthies.

At the opening meeting of the Ulster Medical Society in Belfast, the President (Professor Whitley) gave biographical sketches of some members of the Society who have died since 1886. Amongst these, Mr. R. W. Pring, who was the head of Messrs. Gratton & Co.'s, Belfast, and who died in 1891, came in for an appreciation.

#### The Empties Question.

At the Macroom Board of Guardians last week a bill was read from the Chemical Drug Company, of Cork, for 68*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, which included 15*l.* for empties, which the Clerk thought was not due. The empties were to be returned, but this was to be done at the contractor's cost. A L.G.B. order subsequently issued said that empties not returned before the lapse of six months would be charged, but the contractors were now charging for a date before the latter order was issued. It was decided to pay the bill, less the 15*l.* in dispute.

### Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### They Liked it.

In the Van Houten cocoa-house at the Glasgow Exhibition no fewer than 534 572 cups of cocoa were served. On several occasions the number of cups served exceeded 5,000 per diem, and on one day reached 7,495.

#### Object-lessons.

On November 25 the students of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, accompanied by their Principal (Mr. Thos. S. Barrie, F.C.S.), paid a visit to the manufacturing laboratory of the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company at St. Rollox.

#### Poisoning.

A Glasgow baker named William Steel (28) arrived home early on the morning of November 21 considerably under the influence of drink. He retired to bed, but, awaking later, he rose, and taking a bottle of carbolic oil from the cupboard, he drank the contents. He died in the infirmary two hours later.

#### Dr. Bruce Takes Action.

In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on November 22, Dr. William Bruce, Dingwall, sued the proprietors of the *North*

*Star* newspaper, Dingwall, for 1,000*l.* damages in respect to a libel alleged to be contained in paragraphs published in the *North Star* of March 9 last, which pursuer said falsely and calumniously represented that he, as a medical man and the superintendent of the Ross Memorial Hospital, Dingwall, had been guilty of cruel treatment of a patient in the hospital. Lord Low in the Outer House allowed an issue for the trial of the action by a jury, but the Lord Justice Clerk, Lord Trayner, and Lord Moncreiff now held that the pursuer had not set forth a relevant case for trial. The facts stated in the paragraph were admitted, and the comments thereon were not against Dr. Bruce, but against the red-tape system upon which the institution was worked. Lord Young dissented.

### French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**RETIRING FUND FOR PHARMACISTS.**—M. Riethe, the progressive and popular President of the General Association of French Pharmacists, has brought forward a proposal for founding a retiring fund for pharmacists (*caisse de retraite des pharmaciens*), and the matter is now under the consideration of a commission named by the Association.

**PHARMACY-EXPANSION.**—The Society of Colonial Expansion at Bordeaux has recently published details of some of the openings that have come under its notice for French pharmacists in the colonies and abroad. Several places on the west coast of Africa are mentioned as offering opportunities for enterprising French, and the following is a not very encouraging description of one for sale at Dubouti, Somaliland:—

"There is one pharmacy here which the owner is anxious to get rid of. It is badly stocked on account of the very high prices of drugs and medicines; some preparations that are sold in France for 50*c.* are charged 3*f.* here. The fact that the pharmacist opens and shuts his shop as the fancy takes him is also an impediment to business, while the number of Europeans is small, and the two doctors here dispense the medicines for their patients themselves." But in spite of these disadvantages the writer goes on to say, "I believe that a young pharmacist coming out here could, with energy and economy, make a living in spite of the competition of the doctors. There are nearly 500 Europeans here and about 10,000 natives who might be 'tapped' in due course."

The Society also reports at some length regarding the Haiti Republic. With a population of 60,000 souls it only possesses five pharmacies of importance receiving their supplies direct from abroad. They are divided as follows:—One English pharmacy, a new business under the name of A. Roberts & Co. Two German pharmacies—the Central Pharmacy of Haiti and the International Pharmacy. They each possess a laboratory as well as a wholesale drug-store for supplying other pharmacies, and their travellers call at all the towns of the Republic. The other two are native pharmacies, owned, the one by M. Séjourné, and the other by M. Shérison-Parisot. There are also two French pharmacies, but the report says frankly that they do not count for much. It would therefore appear that there is a good opening for a competent Frenchman, especially as the French outdoor relief office buys from the German pharmacies. If the prospective pharmacist-emigrant is a doctor of medicine so much the better, as the natives usually apply to the pharmacist for medical advice. There would, however, be a pharmaceutical examination to be passed on arriving in the country, and there is a small annual business-tax of 5*f.* 5*s.* to be paid. It appears that French pharmaceutical products used to have practically the monopoly of the trade in Haiti, but are now almost driven out of the field by their more pushful German and American competitors, but French patent medicines (specialities) hold their own pretty well still. To sum up, success for a competent French pharmacist is stated to be certain, especially as the native doctors have for the most part, studied in France, and would certainly give him their *clientèle*. But the pharmacist must be prepared to add side-lines, such as stationery, books, and fancy goods to his business, which is a thing a French pharmacist would not care to do.



## M. Berthelot's Scientific Jubilee.

(By Our Paris Correspondent.)

THE celebration of the fiftieth scientific anniversary of M. Marcellin Berthelot took place last Sunday morning, November 24, at 10 o'clock, at the Sorbonne, Paris, the Government of the French Republic joining hands, so to speak, with the leading scientific men of France and others in doing honour to the genius of the illustrious *savant*. That important factor, the weather, was propitious, and the sun shone brightly, which added effect and a certain lustre to the three separate processions, composed of the President of the Republic with his military household and the representatives of the two Houses of Parliament, who drove to the



This unique photograph shows M. Berthelot in his Physical Laboratory. It is one of the most characteristic portraits of the *savant*.

Sorbonne in state with escorts of Lancers. Admission to the Sorbonne was by ticket only, and although the doors were opened at 9 o'clock, a large number of the guests arrived before that hour. By the courtesy of an official I was able to secure a seat near the foreign delegates. When 10 o'clock struck the outer doors were already closed, and there were fully a thousand persons inside who could not obtain entrance to the Grand Amphitheatre, where the ceremony took place. A hall three times the size could easily have been filled, but the Sorbonne was selected as being the headquarters of the French learning.

At 10 o'clock precisely M. Berthelot entered the hall, accompanied by President Loubet, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, the Premier, and other members of the Government, to the strains of the "Marseillaise," played by the band of the "Garde Republicaine." The large platform was also occupied by representatives of all the leading French scientific, artistic, and learned bodies, as well as the Army. M. Guignard, director of the Paris School of Phar-

macy, occupied a seat on the front row of the platform, and delegates from the Paris School of Pharmacy composed of professors and students were accommodated in the body of the hall. M. Berthelot sat between M. Loubet and M. Leygues, Minister of Public Instruction. M. Leygues, who acted as chairman, said, in opening the proceedings, that the presence of the President of the Republic had converted what was a scientific solemnity into a national *fête*. He spoke of M. Berthelot as a man of science who has the qualities of a philosopher, a democrat, and a patriot. "Your country glorifies you to-day," the Minister added, "and, glorious in the past, you still look into the future, though you are already in immortality."

M. Darboux, one of the permanent Secretaries of the Paris Academy of Sciences and President of the Committee of the Berthelot Jubilee, was the next speaker, and he referred to Berthelot's fifty years of untiring work and his different publications, the result of his studies on the most varied subjects.

The audience had by this time settled down, and gave warm applause on every possible occasion. M. Henri Moissan next delivered an oration on behalf of the Section of Chemistry of the Institute of France. In the course of this he said (addressing M. Berthelot): "Within the first five years of your scientific career you had already published twenty memoirs which were sufficient to make your name known amongst the chemists of the entire world, and we, in witness of your continued efforts of fifty years, have desired to give you the testimony of our gratitude and thanks." The other speakers were M. Fouqué, President of the Paris Academy of Sciences, and an old schoolmate of M. Berthelot; M. Gaston, of the Collège de France; Dr. Félix Guyon, President of the Paris Academy of Medicine; and M. Chaveau, of the National Society of Agriculture. Then M. Leygues called upon Professor Emil Fischer, of Berlin, the German delegate, who presented an address, enclosed in a handsome red-plush case, on behalf of the Royal Academy of Prussia. The three British delegates followed. They were Professor William Ramsay for the Royal Society of London, Dr. J. H. Gladstone for the Royal Institution, and a delegate from the Dublin University, who all wore their striking red University gowns. Each said a few words in French, and Professor Ramsay read the address of the Royal Society in English, smiling deprecatingly when a faint sign of protest at a foreign language came from the audience. Addresses were also read by the Austrian and Italian delegates. Professor Troost then read a lengthy list of the addresses and congratulatory telegrams—about a hundred in all—received by various French and foreign learned bodies, and announced that the Queen Regent of Spain had decorated M. Berthelot with the Order of the Grand Cordon of Charles III. The King of the Belgians sent a special congratulatory telegram.

During the ceremony M. Berthelot had remained seated in his chair, passing his hand occasionally over his forehead—a typical figure of modesty and quiet dignity, though to all appearances the equal, both mentally and physically, of most men twenty years his junior.

"La parole à M. Berthelot" said the Minister when M. Troost had terminated.

Then the enthusiasm of the assembly knew no bounds, and the applause lasted several minutes.

The distinguished *savant* rose to reply. He managed to keep his self-possession, but speaking with evident emotion, and quietly, though with a well-pitched voice, he said:—

M. le Président, M. le Ministre, my dear colleagues and friends, and you, young men, my pupils and friends,—I am profoundly touched and truly confused by the homages you render me in this moment. These honours are not due solely to your affection for my person; I must attribute them also to my age, my long work, and to the few services I have been able to render to my country and my fellow men. Your sympathy makes the lamp which is on the point of being extinguished in the everlasting night shine with a final brilliancy. The respect which humanity shows to aged persons is the expression of the solidarity which unites the present generations to those which have gone before and to those which will follow. In fact, what we are can only be attributed for a small part to our labour and personal individuality, because we owe it almost entirely to our forefathers, both of blood and mind. If each one of us adds something to the common weal in the domain of science, or art, or morality, the reason is because long series of generations have lived, worked



thought, and suffered before us. The science which you honour to-day has been created by the patient labours of our predecessors. Each one of us, whatever may have been his individual initiative, ought also to attribute a considerable portion of his success to his contemporaries who are working at the same time as himself at the great common task. In effect, it may be declared emphatically that no one has a right to claim the exclusive merit of the brilliant discoveries of the past century. Science is essentially a collective work, prosecuted during the course of time by the efforts of a multitude of workers of every age and every nation, succeeding each other and associated in virtue of a tacit understanding for the research of truth in its purity, and for the application of this truth to the continual transformation of the condition of all men.

Gentlemen, formerly *savants* were looked upon as a little group of amateurs and leisured people, maintained at the expense of the labouring classes, and performing a work of luxury for the amusement and distraction of the favourites of fortune. This narrow and unjust view which took so little into account our services and devotion to truth, this prejudice, ended by disappearing when the development of science showed that Nature's laws were applicable to practical industry, and their effect was to replace the old traditional receipts and empirics by profitable rules founded on observation and experience. To-day who would dare to look upon science as a sterile amusement in presence of the general increase of national and private riches which have resulted from it?

The most interesting of the services rendered by science is perhaps shown by comparing the servile and miserable condition of the popular masses in the past with their present state, already so much raised in dignity and comfort, without prejudice to the hopes which they are gradually realising. Is there still a statesman who doubts the services greater still that may be expected from this incessant progress? Science is the benefactor of humanity. Thus it is that the tangible utility of scientific results has made the public authorities understand that laboratory work should be encouraged and sustained, because it is economically a benefit to all and for the public health. But that is only a portion of our domain. Science carries its legitimate pretensions further. To-day it claims the material, intellectual, and moral direction of society. Under its impulse modern civilisation marches with an increasingly rapid stride.

Gentlemen, since the first half of the century that has just terminated, without going further back, the world has strangely altered. The men of my generation have seen come into play, beside and above the nature known since antiquity, if not an antithesis, a counter-nature, as it is sometimes called, but a superior nature, and to some extent transcendent, where the power of the individual is centupled by the transformation of forces until then unknown or not understood, borrowed from light, magnetism, and electricity.

This is not all. Let us turn to a higher and more fertile order of ideas. A new conception of human destiny results from a more profound knowledge of the universe and the physical and moral constitution of man, directed by the fundamental notions of universal solidarity between all classes and all nations. According as the bonds uniting the peoples of the world together are multiplied and lightened by the progress of science and by the unity of the doctrines and precepts that it deducts from proved facts, and imposes without violence and yet in a relentless manner to all convictions, these ideas have assumed a growing and more and more irresistible importance. They tend to become purely a human basis of nature, morality, and politics. Hence the *role of savants*, as individuals and as a social class, has unceasingly developed in modern states. But our duties towards other men increase in the same ratio, and let it never be forgotten; let it be proclaimed in this hall, in this palace of French science. It is not by reason of the egoistical satisfaction of our private vanity that the world-to-day pays homage to *savants*. No; it is because it knows that a *savant* really worthy of the name devotes a disinterested life to the great work of our epoch—I mean to say to the improvement, too slow, alas! for our taste, of the condition of every one, from the richest and happiest to the humble, the poor, and the suffering. That is what the public authorities declared nine years ago in this same hall when honouring Pasteur. That is what my friend Chaplain has tried to express on the beautiful medal which the President of the Republic will presently offer me. I do not know if I have completely fulfilled the noble ideal traced by the artist, but I have tried to make it the object and end, the directing idea of my existence.

This remarkable discourse was frequently interrupted by applause. General and tremendous enthusiasm followed the last words. The applause redoubled when President Loubet, as the chief of the State, rose from his seat, and gave M. Berthelot the *accolade* (that is, kissed him on each cheek). The President then made a formal presentation of the commemorative medal, which we reproduce, after which M. Berthelot gracefully bowed his thanks to the large audience.

Then the fine orchestra again played the "Marseillaise," and the ceremony terminated by M. Loubet leading the way from the platform accompanied by shouts of "Vive Loubet," "Vive la République!" and "Vive Berthelot."

The commemorative medal or plaquette is considered to be very successful. On one side is the portrait of M. Berthelot, and on the other he is shown seated on a chair



OVERSE AND REVERSE OF THE BERTHELOT JUBILEE MEDAL.

before an experimenting-table. His right hand supports his left elbow and his chin rests on his left hand, the pose and attitude being remarkably natural. The head is erect, and the eyes gaze into space. The figures behind him are emblematic of Light and Truth; one holds a flag and a wreath of laurels and the other a sparkling mirror.

The ceremony was in every way worthy of the illustrious chemist. It was the counterpart of himself—simple, without ostentation, but really grand—and several references were made in the various speeches to his original connection with pharmacy. The large amphitheatre of the Sorbonne is a handsome hall, its principal decoration being a magnificent allegorical fresco by Puvis de Chavennes. The remainder is for the most part handsome dark-oak panelling. Facing each other are two fine seated statues, one of Robert de Sorbonne the founder, and the other of Cardinal Richelieu, who gave the first great impulse to university education in Paris. The last celebration of a similar character was given, as M. Berthelot mentioned, at the Sorbonne nine years ago in honour of Pasteur.

## East Indian News.

MESSRS. R. O. GOOPTU & SONS are opening showrooms at 96 Olive Street, Calcutta. The principal is the maker of a well-known fever-mixture, the headquarters being at 27 and 28 Grey Street. In the new venture his sons are associated with him, and they will trade as wholesale and retail druggists, and importers of druggists' sundries, proprietary articles, and surgical instruments.

INDIA'S TRADE WITH CHINA, RUSSIAN TURKESTAN, AND THIBET—Mr. G. Macartney, Special Assistant for Chinese Affairs, has submitted a report to the Resident in Kashmir for the year ended March 31, 1901. Trade has been steadily declining since 1895, and 1901 scores the lowest value since that year. Five years ago there were about thirty-four Hindus carrying on trade between India and the northern lands, with an aggregate capital of six lakhs of rupees. Now there are only thirteen, and of these, five, Mr. Macartney says, may be more justly classed as money-lenders than as *bona-fide* traders. The chief trade has been in charas (the resinous exudation of *cannabis indica*), which is used principally for smoking. It is gradually being realised by the Turkestan traders that in order to carry on a remunerative business in charas it is necessary to restrict the export to India within certain limits, fixed by the demand as affected by present taxations.



## South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

**A PATENT SOUGHT FOR.**—Amongst the applications for letters patent this week is one for an invention for "An improved process for hydrating oxides, more particularly alkaline earths and apparatus therefor," by Georg Beil, chief engineer, Oschersleben, Germany.

**THE MEDICAL AND PHARMACY REGISTER** for Cape Colony, corrected up to June 30, 1901, has just been published. The Register, of which the present is the eighth issue, contains information relating to the medical profession and to pharmacy, and includes lists of those practising, as well as a list of licensed nurses and midwives.

**NEW DOCTORS.**—Upon the recommendation of the Colonial Medical Council, the Colonial Secretary has issued licences to the undermentioned medical practitioners in Cape Colony: Montague P. Cooke, L.S.A., M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P. (not now on Medical Register); Joseph B. Anderson, M.B. (formerly of Dublin); H. G. H. Monk, L.S.A., M.R.C.S.E. (formerly of Leicester); F. C. Sinclair, M.D. (formerly of Quass, Damaraland); and R. C. M. Hoare, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.E., L.F.P.S.G. (formerly of Birmingham).

**PERSONAL.**—Mr. Henry Evans, manager of Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co., wholesale druggists, Cape Town, returned on November 3 by the intermediate boat *Ghoorka* from England with his family. Mr. Evans left South Africa nearly seven months ago upon the advice of his doctor, and has benefited greatly by his sojourn in England. Whilst in Europe he visited the Glasgow Exhibition and the Continent, and he has returned ready to grapple with the anticipated business boom when matters become more settled.—Mr. Victor Browne, managing director of Lennons (Limited), has so far recovered from his illness as to enable him to return to Johannesburg. Mr. Browne left Johannesburg some two years ago, on the death of Mr. Tobby, the director of the firm at Cape Town, and he has been indisposed for the past eighteen months.

**MEDICAL RECIPROCITY.**—At the last meeting of the Colonial Medical Council in Cape Town, Dr. C. F. K. Murray in the chair, a motion was submitted by Dr. Gregory, Colonial Medical Officer of Health, to the effect that no "diploma granted by the Government or any University or other body of a foreign country shall entitle the holder thereof to registration as a medical practitioner or dentist in this colony, unless equal rights and advantages are given in such country to the holder of any British registrable degree." In the course of his remarks in proposing this motion, Dr. Gregory pointed out that of 814 medical men on the register, 116, or 14.2 per cent., held foreign diplomas; and that since 1892 the increase in the annual number of foreign doctors registered has been most marked. In that year only 2.8 per cent. of those registered held foreign diplomas; in the present year, up to August 17, the foreign practitioners were 62.5 per cent. of the total admissions. An amendment by Dr. Beck, "that the Council resolve that Government be approached with a view to communications being opened up with foreign Governments, pointing out the large privileges given in this colony to holders of foreign medical diplomas, and stating that it is considered scarcely reasonable to continue to give these unless foreign Governments give equal privileges in their colonies to British medical diplomas," was rejected, Dr. Gregory's motion being carried by seven votes to two.

**BLOEMFONTEIN JOTTINGS.**—Trade in Bloemfontein is still being carried on under very adverse conditions, writes a correspondent from that place, as stocks are low, and it is very difficult to obtain goods from the coast. Only drugs and proprietary medicines can be obtained by goods or passenger train. Perfumery, hair-preparations, toilet-soaps, and photographic materials have to be obtained by parcel-post, and permits for these goods are often curtailed by the Assistant Director of Civil Supplies, Mr. H. Pearce, who was at one time a representative of Lennons (Limited), so has a good knowledge of what a chemist can properly designate "drugs." Still, he has been known to pass "sodium thiosulphate" and "pyrogallol," when refusing to sanction the import of

"hypo" and "pyro."—There is a large demand for photographic goods, but the supply under present conditions is inadequate, as dealers cannot afford to pay 8s per lb. for postage on plates and hypo. The latter article generally fetches 9s per lb., when there is any in the town for sale, but at present there is none obtainable.—Martial law still continues, and great caution is necessary with respect to one's behaviour. An assistant in one of the pharmacies, having a dispute with an officer in the theatre, was conveyed to the police-station, but no definite charge being made he was allowed out on bail. The assistant had an enforced interview with the Assistant Provost-Marshal on the following morning, however, was fined heavily, and ordered to proceed "over the Border" next morning.

**FOLLOWING THE FLAG!**—In spite of the continuance of the operations in the Transvaal, the new Government have been able to produce trade statistics for the first six months of the year. The figures just published in connection with the Customs Department indicate that the total value of imports for the half-year in question was 1,143,192*l.* The goods dealt with are simply those imported under permit for civil consumption, and are strictly confined to necessities, with perhaps an occasional exception in the case of returning families who desire to bring some of their household goods with them. Haberdashery and millinery represented 125,025*l.*; apparel, 101,657*l.*; boots and shoes, 70,282*l.*; preserved meats, 49,045*l.*; groceries and oilman's stores, 45,262*l.*; flour, 42,470*l.*; and butter, 42,470*l.*; while preserved milk cost 37,560*l.*, and preserved fish 31,803*l.*; 26,000*l.* was spent on whisky, 10,293*l.* on cigarettes, and 6,640*l.* on cigars. Art is represented to the extent of 16*l.*, while two pianos were allowed into the country.—In Natal the October Customs returns show the value of imports at 902,047*l.*, and exports at 469,561*l.* The Customs revenue was 83,669*l.*, compared with 56,755*l.* last year. The special receipts this year include 4,168*l.* received from the Cape Colony under the Convention. The figures show last month's trade to be the biggest on record. Trade with the Transvaal was equivalent to an annual value of 4,000,000*l.*, exclusive of goods specially imported for the military authorities. The total imports are at the rate of 10,030,000*l.* per annum. The Customs revenue is also the highest on record, even deducting the amount received from the Cape under the Convention.

**A REFUGEE-CAMP TRAGEDY.**—At the Bloemfontein Magistrates' Court on October 31, before Mr. J. A. Ashburnham, R.M., William Henry Kerr, chemist and druggist, was charged with causing the death of three children through carelessness in the dispensing of strychnine. From the evidence it appeared that the children were in the Boer refugee-camp hospital at Bloemfontein, suffering from broncho-pneumonia following measles. Defendant was the senior dispenser at the camp, and it is alleged that the children died after each had been given a teaspoonful of a mixture containing strychnine, which the defendant had dispensed. The prescription as originally written, according to Dr. Pern, the camp medical superintendent, called for a 2-oz mixture to be taken in teaspoonful doses, each dose to contain 2 minims of liquor strychninae. Evidence was given by two nurses and the matron of the hospital of the dispensing of the mixture (which was a refill) by the accused, and of the deaths of the three children immediately after receiving a dose. Dr. Pern, who was sent for whenever the children were taken ill, deposed to injecting 2 minims of liquor strychninae hydrochloridi into one of the children to allay the spasms. It never struck him that the cases were those of strychnine-poisoning. Cross-examined by Attorney Jooste (who appeared for defendant), Dr. Pern stated that the prescriptions in the camp were either filed or pasted to the bottles. Dates, &c., were always given. Stock-medicines were used when there were a number of patients suffering from the same complaint in the same ward; but the prescription in question was never used as a stock-mixture. Witness gave no personal written directions to the nurses as to the medicine to be taken. These instructions were generally given verbally. The medicine-bottle was refilled without anyone's instructions. The dispenser had no right to fill any bottle with medicine without written instructions from a doctor.

By the Magistrate: If a nurse goes up to the dispensary



and asks to have an empty bottle filled, has the dispenser any means of knowing what to put into it?

Witness: His duty is to refuse to refill it without written instructions from the doctor.

The district surgeon of Bloemfontein (Dr. D. M. Tomory) deposed to making a *post-mortem* examination and finding that the children had suffered from broncho-pneumonia. Not being satisfied as to the cause of the deaths, he sent the stomachs, with their contents, to the Government analyst at Cape Town, and since receiving the analyst's report he had come to the conclusion that death was due to strychnine poisoning. In Cape Town Messrs. Heyres, Mathew & Co. had made up a mixture according to the prescription (produced in court), and it was found that the mixture administered to the children was widely different. Strychnine could be used in broncho-pneumonia with good results. The dose, according to the prescription, was strong for the age of the children. The case was adjourned, bail in 100*l.*, with two sureties of 50*l.* each, being allowed.

[The William Henry Kerr here mentioned was at one time in business at 9 New Bond Street, London, W., and will be remembered as one of the founders of the Junior Pharmacy Ball.—ED.]

### South African Experiences.

We have recently received the following letters from chemists and druggists trained in England who are now in South Africa, and whose experience is not confined to Cape Colony. They are of special interest at the present time, although the "rush" to South Africa and the "boom" become more and more nebulous as the War is prolonged and the taxpayer at home feels the pinch of it:—

The South African War, which still drags on and looks like doing so for some time to come, has brought the Old Country and South Africa much nearer together. It would, I am sure, surprise many chemists in England to know how closely chemists in South Africa follow the ups and downs of the trade at home.

There are, no doubt, innumerable "craftsmen" at home who, wearying of the strife and cut-throat competition, look with a longing eye to this country wondering if it will repay their emigration and dive into a new life. It is to them that I particularly address these few words. "Nothing venture, nothing have." For the chemist in South Africa there is a good deal to be had with comparatively little risk. Perhaps it is difficult to draw quite as glowing a picture of life in this country as it deserves, for martial law, though quite necessary, is, of course, occasionally somewhat irksome.

I notice from the *C. & D.* that many advertisements appear regularly, and my advice to men at home is, Come! Come away from the arena of ha'pennies, improper motions, Kodak agreements, and drug-stores. Come and enjoy life in South Africa. At the coast, even now, though everything is so much dearer, one can live on 7*l.* 10*s.* a month. In fact, this is more than sufficient. Board and lodging can be obtained for 6*l.* to 6*l.* 10*s.*, and washing costs (by contract) 10*s.* a month. Of course out-of-pocket expenses I do not count as "living," for one has them everywhere.

The agreement seems to cause many much anxiety. There is no reason it should do so. Strictly speaking, this is not legally binding, but if a man does not mean to keep it he had better not sign it, for morally binding it certainly is. I signed an agreement for three years, and it has not been kept, for my firm have treated me better than I arranged for in London. I am not a "goody" young man, but I should advise chemists seeking to make a place for themselves in South Africa to be either teetotallers or very moderate drinkers. For unqualified men South Africa is no place.

Roughly speaking, the up-country hours are 7 A.M. to 6.30 P.M., with two hours for meals. At the coast the hours are a little longer. Probably each assistant has two early mornings and two nights till 9 P.M. each week. In most towns the half-day holiday is in vogue, and Bank Holidays are more frequent than in the Old Country. The class of trade is much pleasanter, "tickers" [3*d.*] being the lowest coin we handle.

Chemists should not come to South Africa unless they are prepared to remain here for a few years. For a man to return after two years or so is suicidal. Experience shows

that very few, after living a Colonial's life, can settle down again to the starched rut at home. Now is the time to come out—that is, before the boom comes. Unless a man has money, he should not come on spec. There is no occasion to do so, as good jobs can be obtained through many of the London houses. My experience is that, though always remembering home, you will not suffer from home-sickness in S.A. Besides, the *C. & D.* is circulated largely all through the country. (58/12)

A *Chemist's Assistant* (36/10), who has been in the fighting line, writes:—

I left Graaff Reinet, the home of the rebels, known to the Dutch as "The Gem of the Desert," on September 11. I had a good time down there; I was a non. com. in the Town Guard, but only took part in one fight—viz., Martin's Hok, where Captain Moore, A.S.C., was killed. The military issued a proclamation that all stores must close at 4 P.M., the usual hour being 6 P.M. We had some exciting times. The life of a chemist as an assistant out here is far pleasanter than at home: the work and hours are much lighter, and the pay is much better. The cost of living is not as great as one would expect. I paid 5*l.* a month in Graaff Reinet for a room and all meals. In Kimberley living is about 3*l.* a month more. Please do not forget to change my address, as I would rather go without my Sunday's dinner than my *C. & D.*

In your issue of September 14 appear some statements by "Ixia," Kim erley, anent hours, &c., obtaining here, which I should like to contradict. Chemists' qualified assistants do not receive on an average 4*l.* per month less than at the coast. The following is correct:—Coast town (Cape Town): A fair monthly wage for three years' agreement is 14*l.* first year, 15*l.* second, 16*l.* third; and for an inland town, such as Kimberley, 16*l.*, 17*l.*, and 18*l.* with free room. No chemist's assistant, qualified or unqualified, in Kimberley works from 6 A.M. till 10 P.M. The average hours are 8 A.M. till 9 P.M., with an hour for breakfast, dinner, and tea; every second night off at 6, and half-holiday weekly, with five or six hours' duty every alternate Sunday. Cost of living is estimated well within the mark at 8*l.* 10*s.* per month. As to climate, if "Ixia" wishes for anything finer than the appearance presented by Diamond-apoli at present, he must indeed be very difficult to please. As I write a spell of dry weather is broken by a delightfully refreshing spring shower. The atmosphere is laden with the hlossomy breath of Port Jackson willow, the pomegranate-shrub is hedged with blood-red flowers, and roses and pinks of every shade intermingle with the dark-green leaves of vine and fig-tree. The social life of Kimberley compares favourably with that of any town in South Africa. A very considerable proportion of the population hail from north of the Tweed, and "Brither Scots," it would seem, do not readily forget the "wee drap o' blood atween us." Firms, as a rule, are very willing to treat their assistants liberally. Doubtless they find, as employers have found at home, that to grudge a good salary and a reasonable amount of breathing-space to a good man is anything but good policy. I would like to add a few suggestions which may be helpful to any thinking of coming to South Africa. Do not sign any agreement which does not contain a clause such as this: "Two months' notice by either of the contracting parties terminates this agreement." Of course in the case of the assistant giving notice, where the firm pays passage-money, this would have to be returned. This clause is a safety-valve, allowing the assistant to accept a higher salary should he discover on arrival that his salary is below that prevailing in the locality. In some printed agreements used by the larger firms a similar clause exists. One does not require to take a large outfit. He may have to go up-country, where railway-rates for luggage rule high; moreover, the difference in price on articles of apparel is usually exaggerated at home, and the home-made article is not always suited to the altered conditions of climate. Lastly, if he receives a good salary at home, has won the confidence of employer, finds the climate suitable, and is content to trust the future for what it holds in store, he will do well to remain where he is. I have tried to give a fair and impartial account of things as I have found them, in the hope that it may help others, and with a view to gainsaying those writers who from time to time allow pessimism to overcome accuracy in relating their South African experiences.

JOHN F. Y. STALKER.



## Colonial and Foreign News.

**CONSULAR REGULATIONS OF BRAZIL.**—In reference to the recent onerous regulations imposed by the Brazilian Government in regard to consular invoices, the Foreign Office now states that H.M.'s Minister at Rio has been informed that the Brazilian Government are about to take steps for applying to the National Congress for the necessary powers for removing the inconveniences entailed by these regulations.

**BERLIN APOTHEKEN BOYCOTT.**—The dispute between the Berlin Apothekers and the Sick Fund Societies, the main point of which is the question of the allowance of discount on medicines supplied, is still unsettled. A meeting of the committee appointed to arrange a reconciliation, consisting of representatives of both parties, was held on October 26, but as it failed to arrive at any definite agreement the negotiations were postponed.

**BRITISH EXHIBITION IN ST. PETERSBURG.**—With reference to a notice which appeared in the *C. & D.* of May 4, 1901, page 708, it is now announced that this exhibition is to be opened on June 3, 1902, and will remain open until September 2. A list of the rules and regulations for exhibitors may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence branch of the Board of Trade, 50 Parliament Street, S.W., or at the London offices of the Exhibition, 22 Conduit Street, W. As already mentioned the exhibits will be solely confined to the manufactures and products of the United Kingdom.

**NEW GERMAN CUSTOMS TARIFF.**—The *Reichsanzeiger* publishes the amendments effected by the Federal Council in the Customs Tariff Bill. The fundamental provisions of the original draft have been retained by the Council, only some of the items being modified. Prominent among the alterations in the tariff are the following:—The duty on hops has been raised from 40m. to 60m., and on lupulin from 60m. to 90m., while the following reductions have been made:—On quebracho wood and other tanning woods, from 2m. to 1m.; on linseed oil, from 6m. to 4 n.; and on sesame oil rendered unfit for consumption, from 10m. to 5m.

**THE NEW GERMAN TARIFF BILL.**—The preamble of the new Customs tariff has been issued to the members of the Reichstag. It first sets forth the necessity of replacing the tariff hitherto in force by an entirely new one inferior to that of no other country in the delicacy of its arrangement. It goes on to say that the policy of tariff conventions has materially contributed to the prosperity of industry and commerce, and that one of the essential aims of the Bill is to place home agriculture in a more favourable position by affording it greater Customs protection. It is desired that the Bill may come into force on January 1, 1904. As, however, there is very little certainty of new commercial treaties coming into force at the same time, the Bill reserves the fixing of the date to be made by the Imperial decree issued with the assent of the Federal Council.

**FATAL HEADACHE-POWDER.**—An inquest was held on a man who died at Suny Hills, near Sydney, on September 12, after taking a "headache-powder" obtained from a local chemist. The *post-mortem* examination showed that death was due to strychnine-poisoning. The chemist who supplied the powders said that they contained 6 gr. of antipyrin. His stock of antipyrin, on analysis, was found to be pure, with the exception of some in a stock-bottle, which contained strychnine. The chemist could not explain how the strychnine got into the antipyrin. The jury found that death was due to poisoning by strychnine, and "that due care had not been exercised in putting up the powder, but on whose part there was no evidence to show."

**THE SALE OF DRUGS IN GERMANY.**—The new Imperial order with regard to the trade in medicaments in Germany has now been published, and comes into force on April 1, 1902. It provides that no preparation included in specified lists, whether it contain medicinal properties or not, may be sold except by an apotheker. Cosmetics, sold as remedies, disinfectants, and corn remedies only come under this order if they contain substances which chemists are not allowed to sell without a doctor's, dentist's, or veterinary surgeon's

prescription or if they contain creosote, phenylsalicylate or resorcin, and artificial mineral waters come under the order only if their composition does not tally with that of natural mineral waters (and if they contained antimony, arsenic, barium, chromium, copper, free nitric acid or free muriatic acid). Wholesalers are exempted from these regulations and the substances in list B (devoted to drugs and chemicals) may be sold to apotheken or such public institutions, or for the purposes of analysis or instruction. The Chancellor of the Empire has the right to extend the list of articles prohibited if necessary.

## Scientific Progress.

**Asterol** is a new mercurial compound, in greyish-white powder, possessing a neutral reaction and soluble in water. The formula is given as  $C_3H_{10}O_3S_2H_3 \cdot 4C_4H_9O_6(NH_4)_2 + 8H_2O$ . It does not precipitate albumen nor irritate wounds. The strength of the solution used is from 2 to 5 per cent.

**Lemon-juice.**—To discriminate between natural and artificially prepared lemon-juice determinations of the ash and the alkalinity of the ash are the most important factors. Natural lemon-juice contains about 0.4 per cent. of ash, using about 6 c.c. per cent. of normal acid for neutralisation. There is no appreciable ash from citric acid, and of course no alkalinity.—(*Analyst*, October, 1901.)

**Acids of Copaiba.**—E. Keto has published an exhaustive research on the acids of copaiba, the last portion of which appears in the current issue of the *Archiv. der Pharmazie* (1901, 578). His principal results may be summarised as follows:—Parabalsam contains paracopaivic acid,  $C_{26}H_{32}O_5$ , melting at  $145^\circ$  to  $148^\circ$ , and homo-paracopaivic acid,  $C_{13}H_{23}O_5$ , melting at  $111^\circ$  to  $112^\circ$ . Maracaibo balsam contains *beta*-metacopaivic acid, the formula of which is not well settled, melting at  $89^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$ , and illuric acid, melting at  $128^\circ$  to  $129^\circ$ . African balsam (illurin balsam) contains illuric acid as its chief constituent.

**Stems in Ground Cloves.**—Green colouring-matter (chlorophyll) is absent from the clove-buds, while the stems contain it in considerable quantity. To detect stems—a common adulterant in ground cloves—the following method may be used:—Shake up a small quantity of the material in a test-tube with alcohol, allow the sediment to settle, and examine the absorption-spectrum of the tincture for the characteristic bands of chlorophyll. Nearly all samples of whole cloves contain, when purchased, a certain proportion of stems. These may be picked out, ground up, and used for purposes of comparison.—(*Analyst*, November, 1901.)

**Caá-êhé, or Azuncá-caá.**—Mr. Cecil Gosling, of Asuncion, Paraguay, has sent to Kew a few leaves of a composite plant lately discovered in Paraguay by Dr. Berton. The shrub from which the leaves are obtained only attains a height of a few inches, the leaves are small, and the flowers still more diminutive. The Indian name means sweet herb, so called because a few leaves are sufficient to sweeten a strong cup of tea or coffee, at the same time giving a pleasant aromatic flavour. Professor O. Rebaudi has named the plant *Eupatorium Rebaudianum*, but the Kew authorities say it belongs rather to *Stevia* than *Eupatorium*, and its affinity is with *S. Collina*, Gard.—(*Kew Bulletin*, 175-177, 1901.)

**The Occurrence of Caffeine.**—A full examination of the various portions of the coffee-bean and other caffeine-containing plants by Beitter shows that the alkaloid is found to very varying extents in the different parts of the plant. The following summary of his results is interesting:—

|                      | Arabian coffee | Liberian coffee |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Green seeds ...      | 1.22 per cent. | —               |
| Roasted seeds ...    | 1.04 per cent. | —               |
| Wood ...             | Traces         | None            |
| Root ...             | None           | None            |
| Old leaves ...       | 1.26 per cent. | —               |
| Young leaves ...     | 1.46 per cent. | 0.52 per cent.  |
| Stem-bark ...        | None           | None            |
| Pericarps ...        | 1.24 per cent. | None            |
| Ripe fruits ...      | 1.00 per cent. | 0.76 per cent.  |
| Half-ripe fruits ... | 1.30 per cent. | 0.44 per cent.  |
| Young fruits ...     | 1.02 per cent. | —               |
| Twig-bark ...        | —              | None            |

In China tea 3.06 per cent. was found in the leaf dust, whilst only traces were present in the fruit and root, and from 1 per cent. to 2 per cent. in the old and young leaves. Assam tea gave 2.48 per cent. in the young leaves and 1.66 per cent. in the old leaves. Maté leaves (dried) gave 1.28 per cent., and the well-roasted leaves showed 1.10 per cent. Kola-nuts gave from 1.24 per cent. to 1.50 per cent.—(*Berichte Deutsch. Pharm. Gesell.*)



## Festivities.

### RELAXATION OF THE METROS.

Students, past and present, and friends of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy to the number of over 200, dined together, on the invitation of Mr. Watson Will, the Principal, at the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday evening, November 23.



Mr. A. C. WOOTTON.

The chair was occupied by Mr. Alfred C. Wootton, and Mr. Will and he were supported by, amongst others, Messrs. W. L. Howie, G. Claridge Druce, J. W. Bowen, Peter MacEwan, W. S. Glyn-Jones, Albert Cooper, W. Prior Robinson, F. Rogers, J. C. Stead, G. Spratt Taylor, Dr. Harrison Martindale, and Dr. F. B. Power. After dinner the King was toasted, and the Chairman proposed the toast of the "Metropolitan College of Pharmacy." The best generals, he remarked, are those who make fewest mistakes. Mr. Watson Will is a general in the ranks of pharmacy who has won an enviable reputation on account of his success, and that success was not the result of mere luck. Mr. Wootton then proceeded to speak of

### EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION

in the following terms:—

I may presume that the majority of the students who have come to the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy have come with the primary object of passing their Qualifying examination. I take the liberty of saying they have done wisely. They are under no compulsion to attend any college at all. It is certainly possible for a young man to fit himself for the ordeal and to successfully negotiate it without the aid of teachers or colleges. And it is highly creditable to him when he does this. But it is not an economical procedure. It is much like walking from London to Edinburgh instead of going by train. The advantages of study in common, the wisdom of utilising the experience of those who know every inch of the road and all its difficulties, and the great benefits of discussing with demonstrators and comrades the details of your work are too obvious to need emphasising.

Some twenty years ago certain of our eminent educationalists waxed very wrath against anything that approached "preparing for examination." They denounced it as immoral. Their theory was that a man ought to learn his subjects because he loved them, and if it happened that he did not love some one or more of those the law prescribed, he was to be somehow coerced into the necessary affection. Then he was to drop in at Bloomsbury Square some day when the examiners were there and show them how perfect he was, and they were to give him a certificate. This ideal has died away to an extent, and the more usual complaint now is that the candidates come up insufficiently prepared. There was an echo of the old sentiment in Dr. Leonard Dobbin's address at Edinburgh reported in the journals this week. Dr. Dobbin says: "The Pharmaceutical student should aim at gaining knowledge for the sake of the knowledge itself, and the useful purposes to which it may be applied, and not solely for the purpose of passing. Passing should really be, and sometimes is, merely an incident on the way."

As a counsel of perfection this is lovely, and, of course, I do not challenge it for a moment. All I contend for is that it does not apply to those of us, and we are many, who cannot claim to be ideals, but who are still entitled to some credit for fighting our way through studies which are not always attractive to us to the position we desire to reach.

If there is any immorality anywhere in the business, it lies, I think, in the assumption that the relative merits of three or four hundred students can be accurately gauged by a dozen men, however clever, in some two dozen hours. I am not criticising the examiners. They are, I am satisfied, very able and conscientious gentlemen. I speak in the presence of several past examiners, and of a great many future ones. I think it is wonderful that they can in the short time they have with each candidate size him up with such a fair approach to accuracy as I suppose it is generally agreed they attain to. It is against the examination system that I protest: against making a fetish of it, as we have done for some fifty years or more, and employing it as the assured test of ability in all the professions. The danger is that this is not only to an extent misleading as a test of ability, but, worse than that, it really imperils the intellect of the nation. Consider; there are probably at this moment not fewer than 50,000 students

who have decided on their careers in life in the military and naval professions, in law, in medicine, in pharmacy; but they may not start on their life's work until they have got through a certain examination or examinations. To a certain point this may be useful, but remember that every one of these men has a natural gift or talent for something, but in all probability he has to suppress this. During the finest years of his life he has to be constantly grinding at the subjects which authorities have decided he must learn before he can set to his life's work. By this means the fine edge of his intellect is blunted, the natural development of his mind is stunted, and his faculties are crippled rather than strengthened for the battle of life. There is every reason to believe that Cromwell, Marlborough, Clive, and Nelson among the heroes who have made our history famous, Linnæus the botanist, Hunter the surgeon, and many others who could be named would never have accomplished their great tasks if the taskmaster of our days had got hold of them in their early days.

But this is idle talk. There the examinations are, and you cannot become chemists and druggists without conquering them. So like brave men you grapple with them, and the only assistance I can offer you is to heartily wish you prompt and complete success in your contest.

When you get through them your toughest battle will begin. May I give you one piece of advice in regard to your business career? There are

### THREE OR FOUR ACTS OF PARLIAMENT

which will specially concern you. They are not unjust or unreasonable Acts. Make yourself familiar with their provisions, and you will be very likely saved from a large amount of worry. I refer to such Acts as the Pharmacy Act, the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and the Revenue laws. Some of my friends argue that when you have qualified the State is to some extent bound to help you to get a living. I will not discuss that argument now, but I can say confidently that it is not a bit of use to rely on the State doing anything for you whatever. Nor is it much better to trust to the Pharmaceutical Society for assistance. There are others, again, who rest their hopes on the wholesale druggists. A good many seem to depend on my friend Mr. Glyn-Jones, and when all others fail there are always the Editors of the trade journals to look to. These, I know, will do all they can for you, but after all it will be very little compared with what you must do for yourselves. In the days of the recently defunct Preliminary examination several subjects were named, on one of which an essay had to be written. One of these topics thus given was Lord Nelson, and one candidate who selected this without knowing a great deal of the life of his hero gave a very eulogistic account of his victories and especially of the last one at Trafalgar, and concluded his essay by stating that Nelson's last words were "Every man expects England to do her duty." This sounds something like the great Admiral's famous signal, but in meaning it was as far removed from Nelson's idea as the east is from the west. And yet I am not sure that the candidate did not pretty accurately translate Nelson's purpose into modern English. There is far too great a tendency to look to England, to Parliament, to some society, or to somebody to do for us what we ought to do for ourselves.

Mr. Wootton again, in a few eulogistic sentences referred to the Metropolitan College, and submitted the toast, which was heartily taken, with cheers for the Principal.

Mr. Watson Will, in the course of his reply, said he hoped the day was not far distant when the Minor would be a divided examination. If that were so the examination would be a fairer test of the candidates' capabilities. At the present time a great deal too much is demanded of the candidate, and it is absolutely impossible for him to be *facile princeps* in each subject when six are demanded of him. He considered three subjects ample for one examination, and in such case there would be fewer failures, he ventured to predict. Mr. Will congratulated the captain of the Metro. football team on the fact that up to the present time (after playing their sixth match this season) the team is still unbeaten. He referred with pride to the fact that an old Metro. man, Mr. Flemons, had been instrumental in saving three lives from drowning in the river Thames during the past few weeks.

The medals and certificates to the successful students during the past session were then presented by the Chairman, the following being the medallists:—

*Silver Medals.*—E. W. Hill, F. Trembath, L. N. Hensman.

*Bronze Medals.*—Chemistry: G. Kenworthy, E. Poole, B. T. Lloyd. Pharmacy: S. G. Constance, L. N. Hensman, P. T. Tugwell. Botany: E. T. Mathers, E. Poole, W. G. Day. Materia Medica: F. J. Smith, E. Poole, B. T. Lloyd. Dispensing: E. L. Merry, W. McBryde, H. Lewis.

"The Demonstrators" was given by Mr. F. J. Boss in a



highly ornate oration, which mightily pleased the students. He showed how the demonstrators wisely restrained the impetuosity of lovelorn youths, who thought more of the

Amyrantine asphodel  
Than of colocyath and calomel.

Mr. Lucas, in his reply, said the students would do better if they put as much enthusiasm into their work as they put into the toast. Mr. Filmer de Morgan urged them all to cultivate the two attributes—observation and concentration; and welcomed the report that the Pharmaceutical Council are to consider the advisability of limiting the examinations during the year from four to two. Mr. D. J. Williams also modestly replied.

In the absence of Mr. Thomas Tyrer, through illness, the toast of "The Students" was given by Mr. G. Claridge Druce, who exhorted the students to remain students always. The more they learned how little they knew the greater would be the chance of their filling up some of the lacunæ which our lack of knowledge still leaves open. Although he agreed with the Chairman that the metaphoric travelling from London to Edinburgh by train was quicker than by foot, still he could not help feeling that the man who walks often sees a good deal more than the man who goes by train. Mr. J. W. Sampson replied, after which Mr. Watson Will proposed "The Visitors," for whom Mr. Glyn-Jones replied; and "The Chairman" was proposed by Mr. Howie, who eulogised the good work Mr. Wootton had done and is still doing for pharmacy.

The utmost *bonhomie* and enthusiasm prevailed throughout the evening, which was enlivened by songs and duets from Messrs. Samuel Masters and W. L. Cockburn, concertina solos by Mr. Alexander Bruce, and the ventriloquial whimsicalities of Mr. Sidney Gandy.

#### THE "SQUARE" SMOKER.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Michael Carteighe the Pharmaceutical Football and Cricket Club of the School of Pharmacy, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., held a smoking-concert at the Holborn Restaurant on November 22. The Chairman was supported by Mr. Walter Hills, Professor Norman Collie, Mr. R. A. Robinson, L.O.C., Professor H. G. Greenish, Mr. G. Spratt Taylor, Mr. F. Ransom, and Mr. Richard Bremridge. The programme was an attractive one, a novel feature being the Bloomsbury Quartet, formed by Messrs. H. S. Phillips, A. G. C. Paterson, R. A. Robinson, jun., and H. G. Mitchell, students of the School of Pharmacy, who were applauded again and again whenever their turn came. Mention should also be made of Mr. Herbert Burney's humorous sketch and songs, which are both refined and original. At the interval a short toast list was gone through. Mr. Carteighe, proposing "Success to the Club," referred to his long connection with the club, and said that although luck was a factor to be considered in football as well as in the game of life, they should be careful not to let the advantages it offered slip away. Mr. H. G. Mitchell, the captain of the club, replied. He said the generous gift of a challenge cup by Mr. Watson Will has created a healthy love of contest between the various pharmaceutical clubs in London, and although the School of Pharmacy Club prospects are very good there is evidence that the contest this year will be very keen indeed. During the past season the club has played 15 matches, winning 8 and losing 3, 4 being drawn games. Thirty goals have been scored for Bloomsbury, and 26 against. Mr. Walter Hills proposed the health of Mr. Carteighe, whom he referred to as the best friend the students are ever likely to have, as he takes such an intense interest in the rising generation. Mr. Carteighe, replying, said he was always gratified to see the young joyful faces of the School of Pharmacy students.

#### LONDON COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY.

A successful smoking concert was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Olapham, under the auspices of the College Football Club, on Saturday, November 23, the chair being taken by Mr. F. W. Gamble. The toast of the evening—"The Football Club"—was proposed by the Chairman, coupled the name of Mr. M. Jones (captain), who was enthusiastically received, the effect being heightened by the passing round of the Pharmacy Cup, held by the club, and filled by Mr. Wootton for the occasion. The other toasts followed. The

musical programme was carried out by Messrs. Collit, Marshall, M. Jones, Walsh, Davies, Ch. Rose, Will Ford, Pat Sheridan, and Dick Sawyer, together with the Kew Glee Singers (Messrs. Richer, Turner, Hunt, and Wood).

#### PLYMOUTH PESSIMISTS.

Among the large company at the eighth annual dinner of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse and District Chemists' Association, held on November 27, were Messrs. C. T. Weary (President), C. J. Park, G. Fairweather (Secretary), J. Barge (Treasurer), A. D. Breeze, W. H. Woods (ex-President), F. Maitland, J. Cocks, Davy, Tnrney, H. D. Davey, and N. Lakeman. In proposing the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," Mr. R. D. Doble (Tavistock) said Lord Salisbury had said that the Government was in need of support and encouragement, and the same might be said of the Pharmaceutical Society. Only those endowed with the most sanguine temperament could look to their future as dispensing chemists without dread and apprehension. He feared if the trend of circumstances continued as at present the dispensing chemist was doomed to extinction. The Pharmaceutical Society had set up a higher educational standard, and he was glad the door into the profession was being made narrower, and that the path which led to the door was becoming more difficult of ascent. If salvation for them was possible, and he was doubtful on the point of salvation, it was to be found in making chemists thoroughly educated both generally and technically. The doleful outlook was, for one reason, due to the fact that the medical profession, instead of helping dispensing chemists, showed a disposition to completely ignore them. As the result of keen competition doctors felt they could not afford to let anything slip that they could put into their own pockets. The comparative ease of so-called dispensing supplied another reason for the gloomy outlook, for with tablets and concentrated mixtures to which water only had to be added doctors needed no dispenser. To such an extent had this gone that it was remarkable that there had not been introduced an automatic dispenser on the principle of the penny-in-the-slot machine. Mr. Park acknowledged the toast, and pointed out that the Council, who were sometimes criticised, were in a similar position to that of the military staff who had information was not in possession of the general body, and which could not wisely be divulged. They had endeavoured to reorganise the country, and to have chemists representing the Society in every electoral division, in order that the views of the Society might be laid before parliamentary representatives in event of legislation. "The Local Association" was proposed by Mr. W. Ginn, honorary solicitor, who said he had got the Plymouth Clerk of the Peace to remove pharmaceutical chemists from the Quarter Sessions Jury-list. The President, in responding, said the Association had been a great success from the social, educational, and trading points of view. The terribly long hours were the curse of the profession, and he urged that something should be done in this direction.

#### Iodoform-solutions.

Edward Desesquelle has recently communicated to the *Bull. des Sciences Pharm.*, 1901, No. 10, a note on the solubility of iodoform. He says 1 part of iodoform dissolves in 6 parts of ether, 12 of boiling and 80 of cold alcohol (90 per-cent.), in 14 of chloroform, in 14 of naphthol-camphor, in 3 of carbon bisulphide, in 1 of allyl sulphide, in 30 of olive oil, in 16 of camphor oil, and in 40 of vaseline oil. He mentions that the odour of iodoform is covered in the following manner: Mix 10 grammes of iodoform with 50 drops of oil of cassia, 50 drops of eucalyptus oil, 50 drops of oil of pelargonium, 20 drops of oil of peppermint, 0.5 gramme of thymol, 1 gr. of phenol, and 5 grammes of camphor. He prepares naphthol-camphor iodoform by mixing together 1 part of iodoform and 14 parts of a mixture of 1 part of *beta*-naphthol and 2 parts of camphor. On rubbing together the mixture liquefies, and in this form is specially suitable for the preparation of ointments and other topical applications. In a similar manner preparations of phenol, salol, and thymol with camphor and iodoform may be prepared. The author also makes an iodoform vaseline by dissolving the iodoform in purified carbon bisulphide, and adding the solution to the liquefied vaseline. Iodoform-vaseline oil may be similarly prepared. Iodoform varnish is made by dissolving 1 part of iodoform in 9 parts of ethereal tincture of benzoin. It should be noted that the liquids in all these cases are to be taken by weight unless otherwise indicated.



## Deaths.

**BOWERBANK**.—At Castlegate, Cockermouth, on November 21. Mr. Joseph Bowerbank, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 82. Mr. Bowerbank served his apprenticeship in the town, and afterwards established himself in business as a chemist and mineral-water manufacturer in the Market Place. He was very successful, and after acquiring a fortune he retired, devoting the rest of his life to public affairs. He was for a long time a member of the Cockermouth Local Board, one of the original members of the Burial Board, a trustee of the Savings Bank and likewise of the dispensary. His whole life is a record of good deeds, and his memory will long be cherished by his friends and the public.

**CHALLINOR**.—At Macclesfield, on November 17, Mr. William Challinor, chemist and druggist. Aged 71.

**DEIGHTON**.—At the Hollies, Bridgnorth, on November 26, Mr. Thomas Milner Deighton, J.P., pharmaceutical chemist, senior partner of the firm of Deighton & Smith, chemists, Bridgnorth. Mr. Deighton was elected a member of the Bridgnorth Town Council in 1867, and was elevated to the aldermanic bench in 1885, a position which he held until 1895, when he found himself compelled to retire from municipal life owing to ill-health. Mr. Deighton filled the mayoral chair in 1871-72, a position which his father occupied in 1857. He was appointed a borough magistrate in 1874, and was one of the earliest members of the Castle (Bridgnorth) Lodge of Freemasons, which he joined in 1875, the year the lodge was founded. Mr. Deighton always took a deep and active interest in all that appertained to the welfare of Bridgnorth.

**JONES**.—On November 23, Mr. William Owen Jones, chemist, Much Wenlock, Shropshire. Aged 36.

**LANE**.—At Nottingham, on November 15, Mr. Edward W. Lane, chemist and druggist. Aged 52.

**MÖLLER**.—The death occurred at Copenhagen, on October 22, of F. Peckel Möller, Ph.D., principal of the



firm of Peter Möller, the well-known manufacturers of cod-liver oil. Dr. Peckel Möller was an old student of Bunsen—in fact, he worked alongside Sir Henry E. Roscoe at the famous laboratory at Heidelberg, and although his interests all his life were mainly commercial and pharmaceutical, his love for science was a passion. His early training was as a pharmacist, and he qualified as such in Christiania after his

period of pupillage. He continued his chemical studies at Heidelberg, where he graduated as a doctor of philosophy. Returning to Norway, he was engaged with his father (Peter Möller) in his business, and took an active part in Norwegian pharmacy. He was co-author of "Pharmacopœia Norvegica, 1870," and of other works relating to the pharmacy of his native country, but his *magnum opus* was "The Law of Atomic Linking," published in 1895. This was intended to stimulate interest in organic chemistry, and it introduced a new system of diagrammatic illustration of the constitution of compounds. In his diagrammatic formulæ of compounds he represented carbon as a black disc, oxygen as a double circle with a dot in the centre, and hydrogen as a single circle, with four, two, and one bonds respectively. Other elements also took the disc form, with the elementary symbol within them. The quaint illustrations in the treatise rather tend to hide the author's remarkable knowledge of organic chemistry, for the book is really an encyclopædia relating to chemicals of organic origin used in medicine and the arts. It was awarded the

gold medal of the Scientific and Literary Society of Norway. During recent years Dr. Möller divided his time between London, Copenhagen, and Christiania. He was a man of exceptionally high culture, being well versed in English, French, and German literature, as well as that of his own country. He was a charming conversationalist, and as witty as he was warm-hearted. He is survived by Mrs. Möller (who succeeds to his business) and two sons.

**NELSON**.—At Blyth, on November 23, Mr. John Thomas Nelson, chemist and druggist. Aged 57. Mr. Nelson was found unconscious on the floor of his shop, and died while being conveyed home on an ambulance-stretcher. At the inquest Mr. Joseph Jacob Nelson, chemist and druggist, Edinburgh, said the deceased man, who was his brother, carried on business in Regent Street, Blyth. He saw deceased in his shop on the night of his death. Deceased was then sitting on a chair in the back shop, but he fell off the chair and upset a tin of carbolic acid which was standing on the floor. Some of the acid went on his clothes, and deceased accidentally drew his coat-sleeve across his nose and mouth, leaving a mark. His sister and he tried to rouse deceased, but could not, and a doctor was sent for. Dr. Laing deposed to finding Mr. Nelson sitting on a chair totally unconscious. After considering the facts of the case he came to the conclusion that death was due to apoplexy of the lower part of the brain. Verdict accordingly.

**NICHOLLS**.—In recording the death of Mrs. T. L. Nicholls in last week's issue (page 852), Colchester was inadvertently mentioned in place of Chelmsford.

**PAFFORD**.—On November 19, at Blackburn, Mr. Frank Pafford, chemist and druggist. Mr. Pafford was the oldest tradesman in the town. He came to Blackburn from Ipswich before he had reached his majority. His training had been with a view to his entering the medical profession, but he never passed the examinations for a doctor, and when he settled at Blackburn it was as dispenser to Dr. Eli Pickup. After that gentleman's death some fifty years ago Mr. Pafford commenced business as a chemist in Town Hall Street.

**WALKER**.—At Altrincham, on November 14, Mr. Arthur Heeson Walker, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 38.

**WOODHOUSE**.—On November 21, at Ranford Grange, near Horsham, Anna Jane, widow of Coventry Mark Woodhouse, late of 20 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W., and 30 Mincing Lane, E.C. Aged 84.

## Personalities.

THIS is a portrait of Mr. Martin Meldrum, pharmaceutical chemist, Irvine, who, with Mr. J. W. Sutherland, was appointed this month by the Pharmaceutical Council to fill a vacancy on the Board of Examiners for Scotland. Mr. Meldrum is one of the youngest pharmacists, if not the youngest, ever appointed to the Scotch Board. The fact that he has been a successful teacher should be in his favour, as well as that of candidates. This is not an unprecedented circumstance, for at least one former examiner in London had a similar record to Mr. Meldrum's.



MR. CHARLES W. WHITE leaves by to-night's mail *via* Brindisi for India.



THE HON. GEORGE T. FULFORD, of Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, is now in London on a short visit.

MISS MILLER (Handsworth) has been appointed dispenser to the Hockley Dispensary, *vice* Miss Williams (resigned).

ALDERMAN JOHN HARRISON, member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, has been re-elected Chairman of the Health Committee of the Sunderland Corporation.

MR. R. N. G. BINGLEY, a well-known cinchona planter, is on his way to this country after ten years' continuous work in Java. Mr Bingley is director of several plantation companies in Java, chiefly interested in cinchona.

MR. CHARLES FUERST has commenced business as an importer, exporter, and general commission agent, at 155 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., under the style of the Carlton Import and Export Company. He has secured several American agencies, and will make a speciality of synthetic perfumes.

COUNCILLOR J. B. FOGGITT, pharmaceutical chemist, Southport, lecturing to the Southport Conservative Association the other day on the war in South Africa, expressed the opinion that the time had quite come when those treasonable persons who opposed the war, whether ladies or gentlemen, should be arrested and taken care of until the war was over.

MR. JOHN WM. SUTHERLAND, pharmaceutical chemist,



MR J. W. SUTHERLAND.

Glasgow, is managing director of Messrs. Frazer & Green (Limited). He served his apprenticeship with Messrs. Baildon & Son, Edinburgh, and passed the Minor before his apprenticeship was completed. After passing the Major in 1835, he had experience in Carlisle and London before starting business on his own account in Dumfries, which he left to take over the supervision of the Frazer & Green business. He

has previously served on the Board of Examiners for Scotland.

MR. J. T. WILLIAMS, formerly with Mr. Henry M. Lloyd, chemist, Victoria Street, Merthyr, has passed the M.B. Examination of the London University, and has also been awarded the Fellowes Medal in practical medicine, and the silver medal in senior theoretical medicine, added to which he has passed the examination for Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians.

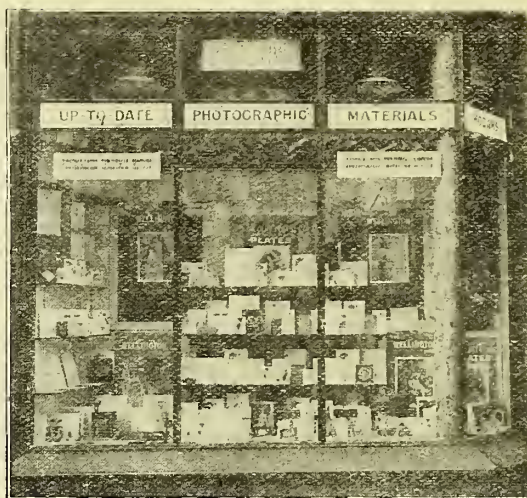
## Christmas Photographic Mounts.

A SEASONABLE SIDE LINE.

THE bulk of the photographic trade is in the hands of chemists and druggists, to whom the following suggestions as to the sale of photographic mounts for Christmas and New Year use are offered.

Most of the wholesale photographic-materials firms allow 25 per cent. discount on small quantities of Christmas mounts, or 33½ per cent. if a gross or upwards are taken, which may be assorted. Three or four gross should at least be stocked as a trial, at a total net cost of about 2/, and might include an assortment of midget, carte de visite, quarter-plate, and cabinet, the slip-in variety being the more popular. It is a wise plan to make an attractive window show (similar to the illustration given) of a large portion of the stock for a week or ten days early in December, so that when the demand comes the whole of the mounts will be available for sale and the window entirely freed for the usual perfume and fancy Christmas display. A specimen of each mount should be pasted in a 6d. scrap-book and kept on the counter for photographic customers to select from, whilst a duplicate

book, interspersed with the chemist's own advertisements specially relating to the photographic department of his



business, might be prepared to be sent round in turn day by day to the principal customers, preceded by the following postcard notice:—

From BLANK & SON, Photographic Chemists,  
Blanktown.

DEAR SIR,—To-morrow we shall have pleasure in sending a few samples of our Photographic Christmas Mounts. You will find our prices most reasonable, whilst we can print your own name and greeting to make private cards, on quantities of twenty-five and upwards, if desired. The Sample Book will be fetched next day.

Soliciting your orders, which may be given to the messenger, or left in the book.

We are,

Obediently yours,

BLANK & SON.

Of course this wastes from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. worth of mounts, but it is an excellent advertisement, and the mounts (of which only the backs are damaged) can be tacked round the inside of the window the following year. Sample prints prepared with the chemist's own toning-solution could be inserted in the show-mounts as an advertisement.

For 1s. or 1s. 3d. a local printer will always print customer's own name and greeting on the back of the cards, and this is frequently an inducement for an amateur to take twenty-five, or even more, and send them out in the now popular form of private Christmas cards. In purchasing the stock of Christmas mounts there is, as a rule, the choice of at least two different mottoes—viz., "With Christmas Greetings" and "With best Wishes." The latter motto is the better to select, as it is equally suitable for Christmas and the New Year, though the quantity sold for the New Year is small compared with those for Christmas.

Some photographic chemists may take exception to the stocking of Christmas mounts on the ground of their unsaleability at other times of the year, but of course this must be guarded against by rather understocking than overstocking the first year, and gauging the following year's stock on the experience of the preceding year, allowing for a certain increase in sales through the advertisement caused by the previous year's display.

An important point to remember is that the local professional photographer should be waited upon with samples of seasonable mounts at special prices at the commencement of the season and orders taken from the samples which wholesale dealers are almost always willing to provide chemists with, conditional on their being returned if not taken into stock. The profit may possibly have to be shared, but the turnover is very materially increased. It is hardly necessary to add that care must be taken not to soil the stock of Christmas mounts, but if the plan of a sample-book is adopted there will be no difficulty in keeping the stock in first-class condition.



## Trade-mark Law.

IN his second lecture at King's College, Professor Cutler, K.C., referring to invented words, mentioned the Bill for amending the law relating to the registration of trade-marks which was introduced into the House of Commons last Session by Mr. Fletcher Moulton and others at the instance of the London Chamber of Commerce. In that Bill it was proposed to abrogate the term "invented word" as an essential particular of a trade-mark, and to substitute "a word or words not to be found in any standard dictionary of spoken languages." He disapproved of this suggestion, because it would let in words coined by taking common terms from the vocabulary of the trade and adding meaningless terminations to them, also words coined by simply putting together two common English words. Professor Cutler then passed on to the consideration of the essential particular

(c) a word or words having no reference to the character or quality of the goods, and not being a geographical name.

He complained of the practice of the Patent Office (backed however, by many decisions of the Courts) of treating words as incapable of registration because they had a remote or fanciful reference to the character or quality of the goods—as, for instance "Haversack" and "Ghorka," both of which were refused registration by the Comptroller as having reference to the character or quality of tobacco. In both these cases the Comptroller's decision was overruled by the Board of Trade, but if the Comptroller had not taken so absurd a view in the first instance the applicants would not have been put to the expense of appealing. Professor Cutler was of opinion that the sense in which the words "having no reference," &c., must have been intended to be used by the Legislature was "having no obvious reference," and not "having no reference, however remote," and he mentioned with approval the proposal in last Session's Bill to insert "obvious" before "reference."

With regard to the requirement of subsection (c) that the word must not be a geographical name, the lecturer said that the Patent Office had proceeded for a long time upon an entirely wrong tack, inasmuch as they rejected as being "geographical" any word tendered for registration which could be found in any gazetteer as the name of a place, however little known the place might be, or even if the primary signification of the word was not geographical. He instanced the rejection of "Blackbird" because it is the name of a village in America, but he pointed out that this view had been partially set right by the decision in the Magnolia case to the effect that "Magnolia," when used as a trade-mark, is not a geographical name, because its general and popular meaning is the well-known flower, and not one of the fifteen or twenty places in America called "Magnolia." Professor Cutler said the decision in the Magnolia case came to this—that a geographical name in (c) is not equivalent to the name of any place, and that a word does not become a geographical name simply because some place on the earth's surface is called by it, but that primarily a word must be looked at in the popular sense—i.e., what it would suggest to an Englishman of ordinary intelligence—and if its popular meaning is not geographical, then it is not primarily a geographical name. Therefore "Magnolia," "Blackbird," and "Monkey" are not geographical names primarily. But if they are used in respect of goods manufactured, or even supposed to be manufactured, at places bearing those names, the words would be used in a geographical sense, and would be geographical names.

The Magnolia case, however, left open this question—

Given a word which is utterly unknown to the bulk of English people, and so is meaningless to them, but which happens to be the name of a small place in America or India, would that be a geographical name?

By a logical extension of the principle on which the Magnolia case was decided it might be held that it would not, but it had never been so held in court, and such a word would certainly be refused registration by the Patent Office. The Bill of last Session proposed to add to "geographical name" this proviso—

Provided that a geographical word shall not be excluded from registration if its general and popular meaning is totally distinct

from its geographical meaning, but registration thereof shall not affect the right of any person to use the word in its geographical signification.

The lecturer then referred to the notice issued by the Patent Office in 1889 that no mere surname or combination of surnames or Christian names which might possibly be the name of an existing individual would be accepted for registration as a trade-mark unless printed, impressed, or woven in some particular way. Under this notice the Comptroller refuses to register as a word having no reference to the character or quality of the goods any word which is, in fact, in use as the surname of an individual, even though the popular signification of the word is not the surname of a living individual but something quite different. For instance, the Comptroller rejected "Samson" as being a surname, although the popular meaning of the word is the biblical hero. This, the lecturer thought, was going too far, and therefore he approved of the proposal in the Bill to insert a provision that—

A word shall not be excluded from registration by reason only that it is a surname if the general and popular meaning of such word is associated with some meaning or object distinct from the name of a person, but such registration shall not affect the legal rights of any person bearing such surname in the legitimate and *bond fide* use of his name.

The next subject considered was Subsection 2 of Section 64, which provides for the addition to the essential particular in a trade-mark of any letter, word, or figure or combination thereof, subject to the applicant disclaiming any right to the exclusive use of the added matter, but that he need not disclaim his own name or place of business. The lecturer then alluded to the practice of the Patent Office of requiring an applicant for the registration of a distinctive label, which includes words that by themselves could not be claimed as essential particulars, to disclaim these words. This practice has been overruled recently by the Court of Appeal, and it is now settled law that an applicant for the registration of a distinctive label cannot be called upon to disclaim anything which is within the four corners of the label. He then passed on to consider Section 74, and pointed out that under it a man may register as an addition to his trade-mark, but not as part and parcel of it, certain things which are common to the trade, subject to disclaiming them. The lecturer concluded by saying that it was a very interesting question what is the effect of registering a word with a disclaimer of it—i.e.: Does the person registering abandon the right to object to the use by a rival trader of such word under all circumstances? Consideration of this question, however, he reserved for a later occasion.

## Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 6, 1901.)

"PHORMAL" and device (the essential particular); for a disinfectant. By J. Meikle, Ruchill Chemical Works, Maryhill, Glasgow. 240,491.

"NIDOS"; for a prepared vegetable fertiliser. By W. Wood & Son (Limited), North British Wharf, Wood Green, N. 240,744.

"IODOGÉNOL" (no claim for "Iodo"); for pharmaceutical preparation. By Pepin et Leboucq, Falaise, Rue Basse du Champ St. Michel, France. 239,597.

Device (the essential particular) for medicinal tonics. By Jean Becker, 7 Hafenstrasse, Ludwigshafen-on-the-Rhine, Germany. 239,797.

"PATEKA"; for a chemical. By E. H. Morris, 101 Upper St. James Street, Newport, Isle of Wight. 240,011.

"HESA" and label; for a corn and wart cure. By James Fry, 43 Upper St. James Street, Newport, Isle of Wight. 239,822



"ATECS"; for a hard chemical pencil for the detection of base silver coin. By Avila Tringham, 267 St. James Road, Bermondsey, S.E. 240,830.

"OLLO"; for detergents. By the Basford Supply Company, Bulwell Lane, Basford, Nottingham. 240,758.

"AGRICOLINE"; for lubricating oils. By Price's Patent Candle Company (Limited), 31 Threadneedle Street, E.C. 241,014.

Device of House of Commons; for chemicals and perfumery. By R. Fry & Co. (Limited), 21 and 22 Middle Street, Brighton. 240,719 and 240,721.

"FO FUM"; for perfumery. By the Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, London, N.W. 240,484.

"KIAMBRA"; for a hair-preparation. By Clara E. E. Gye, Park House, Earl's Court Road, S.W. 241,052.

"POM-POM"; for polishing powders and pastes. By Davies, Gibbins & Co., 75 Bridge Street, Derby. 240,754.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 13, 1901.)

"SCAVULINE"; for chemicals. By the Dr. Williams's Medicine Company, 46 Holborn Viaduct. 239,851.

"VARVEIN"; for a preparation for the cure of varicose veins and the like complaints. By Varco (Limited), Savoy House, Strand, W.C. 240,468.

"AFIXINE" (no claim for "Afix" or "Affix"); for a preparation for adhesive purposes. By Marr, Downie & Co. (Limited), 57 Ingram Street, Glasgow. 241,209.

"GLOOTONE"; for food-stuffs. By the Actien Gesellschaft für Anilin-Fabrikation, an der Treptower Brücke, Berlin, Germany. 240,955.

"RED RAVEN"; for natural and artificial mineral and aerated waters. By the Duquesne Distributing Company, Incorporated, Harnarville, Allegheny, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. 238,862.

"DAISY"; for blue and starch for laundry purposes. By the New Hydroleine Company (Limited), The Callis, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. 236,818.

"TINTEAUCEL" (the essential particular; no claim for "Tint"); for a face lotion. By Avery & Co., 39 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, E.C. 240,479.

Device of umbrella; for perfumery and toilet articles. By J. Crosfield & Sons (Limited), Bank Quay, Warrington. 240,208.

"VICADO," for a complexion-beautifier; "CLIXOS," for a liquid preparation for the cure of involuntary blushing; and "ELANO," for a liquid depilatory. By Alfred Naylor Owen, 124 Regent Street, W. 240,541, 240,542, and 240,544.

"HEMEL"; for a dentifrice. By W. & A. Barritt, 164 Charing Cross Road, W.C. 241,284.

Device of handmill; for perfumery and toilet articles. By Trowsdale Brothers & Stephenson, 11 Leadenhall Street, Darlington. 241,515.

Device (the essential particular) of gramophone; for perfumery and toilet articles. By W. Gossage & Sons (Limited), Widnes. 241,573.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 20, 1901.)

"IRISOL"; for coal-tar dye-stuffs. By Farbenfabriken vorm. F. Bayer & Co., Königstrasse 27, Elberfeld, Germany. 241,349.

"TIMBERINE," on a tree design (no claim for "Timber"); for a wood-preservative. By R. J. Stalker, 1 Queen's Road, Rock Ferry, Cheshire. 241,161.

"SACARBOLATE"; for disinfectants. By R. Young & Co., 38 Elliot Street, Glasgow. 241,046.

"VIKING"; for condition-powders for cattle and horses. By the Viking Manufacturing Company, 1 Mary Ann Street, St. Paul's Square, Birmingham. 241,587.

"TOLO," for chemicals; and "MYRA," for perfumery and toilet-articles. By H. Mack, Kohlgrasse 31, Ulm-on-Danube, Germany. 241,665 and 241,081.

Device (the essential particular) of a label; for "Stearns' wine of cod-liver oil with peptonate of iron." By F. Stearns & Co., Jefferson and Bellevue Avenues, Detroit, Mich., U.S.A. 238,686.

"ZEKOS"; for an ointment. By W. J. Doe, 128 Merton Road, Wimbledon, S.W. 241,064.

"GALLOGEN" (no claim for "Gallo"); for chemicals. By the Chemische Fabrik Dr. Adolf Heinemann, 24 Kanal Eberswalde, Prussia. 241,383.

"ASPERICA" (no claim for "Asper"); for a liniment. By C. Salmon, 23 Temple Street, Liverpool. 241,072.

"PURITAN"; for medicated soap. By C. Thomas & Brothers, Broad Plain Soapworks, Bristol. 241,283.

"LITHETTES"; for chemicals. By Reynolds & Branson (Limited), 14 Commercial Street, Leeds. 241,550.

"JACATRA"; for surgical instruments. By J. A. Schmidt, 35 Kölnerstrasse, Solingen, Germany. 238,530.

"CARALBIN"; for foodstuffs. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Company (Limited), 9 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C. 241,502.

"RED RAVEN" on decorated sign; for natural and artificial mineral waters. By the Duquesne Distributing Company, Incorporated, Harnarville, Allegheny, U.S.A. 238,865.

Device of hard grasping a walking stick; for mineral and aerated waters. By Copestick Brothers & Co., North Road, Cobridge, Stoke-on-Trent. 241,182.

"EVERYL" and device of a Pierrot sitting on a pedestal; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By the Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W. 240,389 and 241,151.

"PARIZONA" (no claim for "Pariz" or "Paris"); for a hairwash. By Louis & Co., 294 Pentonville Road, N. 240,983.

"JAPHINA"; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By J. Travers & Sons (Limited), 119 Cannon Street, E.C. 241,172.

Picture of the House of Commons; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By R. Fry & Co. (Limited), 21 Middle Street, Brighton. 240,721.

## "C. & D." Nursery Rhymes.



### "No Travellers."

DING, dong, bell,  
Bobs of Clerkenwell;  
For our watch and ward  
Travellers are barred.  
"Thus to the extent  
Of many times per cent.  
Wholesale prices fell,"  
Argues Bobs of Clerkenwell.

Ding, dong, bell,  
Bobs of Clerkenwell  
Signs "M., R. & Co."  
Empties come and go  
With a freight by rail or sea;  
"But our goods are package free:  
On the gain I need not dwell,"  
Comments Bobs of Clerkenwell.

Ding, dong, bell,  
Bobs of Clerkenwell  
Can provide a genial laugh,  
Infant's feeder, photograph,  
Or aught else for "sundry" buyer;  
And electors do conspire  
His election to propel—  
Councillor Bobs of Clerkenwell.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### Dr. Dobbin's Address

to the North British Branch on pharmaceutical education and examination deserves careful study, as it expresses views formed after experience as a pharmacist, a scientist, a teacher, and an examiner. Dr. Dobbin is further entitled to the credit of having evidently considered the opinions of those from whom he differs. But I can hardly think he has appreciated those opinions; that is to say, truly estimated them. In demanding that "neither clamour nor threats" shall induce the Council to recede one hair's breadth from its present attitude towards preliminary education, Dr. Dobbin is surely misrepresenting what has been stated in most dispassionate language respecting the effect of the new regulations. To describe bare statistics as "clamour and threats" is to reduce discussion to burlesque. Who, again, are the disputants who, according to Dr. Dobbin, hold "that the pharmacist of the future should not be a better-educated man than his predecessor"? I have never seen any contention of that kind seriously put forward. What Dr. Dobbin has to deal with, if he wants to tackle this topic fairly, is the allegation that his sacred examinations which are not to be modified a hair's breadth are the exact measure of what an educated pharmacist of the present day ought to know. His theory seems to be that the standard is to be fixed by schoolmen, and that the trade must adapt itself to it. That is putting the cart before the horse. Society does not conform to social laws arbitrarily laid down by committees; the social laws are deduced from a study of society.

### The Division of the Minor

finds an able advocate in Dr. Dobbin. But we do not seem to progress with that project. Nobody opposes it, but nobody seems sufficiently interested in it to work for it. It remains a pious opinion only. The Pharmaceutical Council has amiably provided for its possibility in a dim and distant future by a clause in the Bill, but the adoption of that clause implies an opinion that power does not at present exist to authorise the change. There is evidence that the Council is divided even on that point. And now Dr. Dobbin himself aims a shot at the cause he is advocating by the alarming suggestions that if this division were introduced the examiners would be entitled to require a higher standard of knowledge; that this would justify them in asking Parliament to grant powers to enforce a curriculum; and that the curriculum should include, "besides the subjects required for the qualifying examination, a sound commercial training of such a kind as to ensure that the qualified pharmacist should also be a capable business man or woman."

### Business Capacity

means tact, patience, foresight, sound judgment, discernment of character, adaptability, punctuality, pushfulness, and a great many other qualities which it would be difficult to include in a curriculum, and still more difficult to examine a candidate in. Bookkeeping, a little French and German, the multiplication table, some geography a book acquaintance with weights and measures, and a remote knowledge of commercial terms are the things which can be taught in school classes. With much respect for their encyclopædic attainments, I protest against the pharmaceutical professors or examiners undertaking to teach or to test the business abilities of the students who come before them.

### The Clerkenwell Magistrate

who last Saturday heard the methylated soap-liniment charges seems to have lost his balance over them. After convicting Messrs. Boots, and imposing on them the heaviest penalty allowed by law, he adjourned the case in order to hear evidence which he had previously refused to listen to. It is doubtful whether such a procedure can be legal; the defendants' solicitor, at all events, having secured such a glorious injustice to go to the High Court with, seemed very indisposed to surrender it. Chemists who can spare the time may find an excellent entertainment if they attend the *matinée* at the Clerkenwell Police Court on Saturday next, November 30, in watching Mr. D'Eyncourt extract himself from the hole he has digged for himself. The performance will commence at noon.

### Lewis & Burrows's

shareholders get a fair amount of excitement out of their investment. Last year the ordinary shareholders were awarded a 6-per-cent. dividend; the year before it was 3 per cent.; this year it is only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Boots' Easterns meanwhile pay a regular 12 per cent. Perhaps the difference is largely due to a too rigorous professionalism on the part of the former company. The drug-trade may not be such a snug thing for companies as it looks, after all. If L. & B. were to devote some of their nice windows to pictures, portmanteaus, cheap diaries, stationery-cabinets, and light literature, the long-looked-for turn in their affairs might result.

### The Glasgow Chemists

have found a shorter cut to profits on proprietaries than by waiting till a national association can be formed powerful enough to coerce the manufacturers. Having succeeded in establishing an agreement in regard to the prices of those which contained scheduled poisons, it has occurred to them that the same plan might be extended to others, and the report says that they have now included about a hundred patents on their list. The treaty is, no doubt, a precarious one, but the wonder is that it could be arranged at all in a big city like Glasgow. With a little diplomacy a great many small towns could surely emulate Glasgow's example.

### The Most Interesting

of the pharmaceutical meetings last week was, to my mind, that of the Edinburgh Chemists' Assistants' Association, at which Mr. W. S. Hogg related some of his experiences as a compounder with the Army in South Africa. It is to be hoped that the information which Mr. Hogg and other Civil compounders who have served in the war can give will be utilised by the committee on dispensing which the Pharmaceutical Council appointed a long time ago, if it is still in existence.—The official view that the alleged dearth of apprentices is only a journalistic fancy is somewhat rudely shaken by the discussions on the subject, which seem to be pretty earnest, especially in the North. It looks as if those youths who are good enough to consider our business with approval may have a good time of it in future if they like to stipulate terms.—The London assistants who discussed professionalism and commercialism in pharmacy could not add anything new to this well-worn topic. But it was not a waste of time to confer about it. My own impression is that the younger and better-educated pharmacists of the present day have a truer, because a less exalted, view of pharmacy than was prevalent some years ago. They do not regard the sale of soap and toothbrushes as a degrading concomitant of their profession: they are glad to sell them. And to the extent that they are able usefully to advise customers about the soap and toothbrushes, they are *pro tanto* acting professionally.



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## Editorial Comments.

### Preservatives and Colouring.

THE report of the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the use of preservatives and colouring-matters in food has just been published. It is a bulky Blue-book of some 500 folio pages, and contains much interesting matter for chemists and druggists. Altogether seventy-eight witnesses were examined during the twenty-six days the Committee sat, the witnesses being chosen to represent as fairly as possible the several trade and professional interests involved. The fact that food can be preserved has been known from very early times, the substances used being oils, spirit of wine, vinegar, salt, and sugar, but it was not till comparatively recently, when the real nature of the fermentation which causes food to go bad became known, that the art of preserving food was placed on an intelligible basis. The progress of chemistry during the last fifty years is also partly responsible for the knowledge of antiseptics used in modern food-preserving. The agents at present in use are boric acid and borates, sulphurous acid and sulphites, fluorides, salicylic acid, benzoic acid or benzoates, and formaldehyde. The use of fluorides and benzoic acid or benzoates is very limited, the boron preservatives being by far the most popular. They are followed in order by salicylic acid and salicylates and formaldehyde. The sulphites find favour with brewers, and to a limited extent with butchers and poultry-dealers. Bacon is dusted with boric acid to keep it from taint during transit, but the pickle contains an antiseptic, the following being a typical liquor:—

|                        |     |     |     |         |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Antiseptic             | ... | ... | ... | 5 lbs.  |
| Salt                   | ... | ... | ... | 55 lbs. |
| Saltpetre              | ... | ... | ... | 5 lbs.  |
| Sugar (in winter only) | ... | ... | ... | 5 lbs.  |

Dissolve in water, and make up to 20 gals.

Temperance beverages contain as a preservative chiefly salicylic acid, but herb-beer is less frequently preserved for obvious reasons. It is pointed out in the report that the restriction of the amount of alcohol to 2 per cent. of proof spirit in temperance beverages tends to encourage the use of preservatives.

The results of many analyses have been placed before the Committee with the object of showing the proportion of antiseptic employed in foods. From these it appears that boric acid varies in milk from 13 to 91 gr. per pint, in cream 10 to 57 gr. per pint, in sausages and potted meats



from 15 to 66 gr. per lb., in butter 18 to 65 gr. per lb., in margarine 7 to 73 gr. per lb., and in bacon from 8.6 to 45 gr. per lb. Salicylic acid in jam was found in amounts varying from 1.7 to 8.5 gr. per lb., in temperance drinks from 1.5 to 19 gr. per pint, in imported beers from 1.3 to 3.4 gr. per pint. Sulphites in lime-juice, ginger-wine, lemon-syrup, raspberry and peppermint cordial ranged from 0.1 gr. to 4.5 gr. (estimated as  $\text{SO}_2$ ) per pint, and in imported beers from 0.2 to 1.6 gr. per pint. Formaldehyde was detected in milk and cream in quantities less than 1 in 100,000. Dr. Hill (Birmingham) reported that out of eleven samples of ipecacuanha-wine he had examined five contained salicylic acid. Mr. Brierley (Southampton) told the Committee that the local chemists sell boric acid to the farmers without any instructions, which may be taken as a hint that particulars would be appreciated by customers.

The colouring-matters used for improving the appearance of foods are becoming chiefly aniline dyes, except that Armenian bole is still used in sausages and annatto in butter. Annatto is, however, being replaced by solutions in oil of dimethyl-amido-azo-benzene (butter-yellow) and tropceolins. Other coal-tar dyes used for colouring foods are ponceau red, citron orange, crocein orange, auramin, rose-pink, fuchsin and congo red. The question of copper in peas received careful consideration from the Committee, the evidence being very discordant. After weighing all the evidence before it the recommendations arrived at by the Committee are:—

- (1) To prohibit formaldehyde entirely.
- (2) To limit the quantity of salicylic acid to 1 gr. per pint or pound of food.
- (3) To prohibit the addition of colouring or preservative to milk (making such action an offence under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts).
- (4) That only boron preservatives may be added to cream in amount not exceeding 0.25 per cent.
- (5) The same preservatives be permitted for butter, but not exceeding 0.5 per cent.
- (6) To prohibit preservatives in infants' and invalids' dietetic preparations.
- (7) To prohibit the use of copper in preserved foods.
- (8) To form a court of reference or give more power to the Local Government Board to exercise supervision over the use of preservatives and colouring-matters in food.

Dr. Tunnicliffe dissents from the prohibition of copper in vegetables, but would have the quantity restricted and declared. In those cases where preservatives are allowed the quantity used is to be declared. These recommendations have to be approved by Parliament before they are carried out. They are sufficiently definite opinions to awaken some lively opposition.

## The Senega Market.

OF the many crude drugs which come to us from the Western hemisphere senega-root is one that has attracted considerable attention during the present year. The annual crop depends upon the amount dug in the North-West Territories, Manitoba, Minnesota, and Dakota, in which work Hungarians, Poles, Indians, and half-breeds are chiefly engaged. Prices fluctuate widely and according to the cost of labour; thus during one season 17c. per lb. was paid to diggers, while this year dealers in Winnipeg have paid up to 47c. for senega (about the highest price ever known), and have obtained very little even at that. Senega is also a favourite drug with speculators, who endeavour to "bull" and "bear" the market as the occasion suits them. This year it has been fully proved that the amount of root dug has been exceptionally small—viz., from 35,000 lbs. to 40,000 lbs., or a fifth of an average crop.

The world's consumption of senega is estimated at about 200,000 lbs. annually, of which about half is exported from

the United States, the remainder being consumed there. In explanation of the shortage it is asserted that the low prices paid to diggers in former years have driven them out of the business to more remunerative occupations, such as harvesting, and as the North-west has had an exceptionally good wheat-harvest this year, it is reasonable to suppose that the senega-diggers have been assisting in the wheat-fields. It is also stated that the wet weather which prevailed in the digging districts is partly responsible for the shortage, as the root can only be dug when the ground is dry. Taking everything into consideration it will be seen that the present scarcity appears to be genuine. We recently noticed that five dealers advertised in a Winnipeg paper asking diggers to send in their supplies to them, one advertiser saying, "We pay 47c per lb. Ship it on to us." In view of the foregoing facts it is appropriate to glance over the movements of senega on the London first-hand market. Opening the year at 1s. 11d. it dropped to 1s. 9d. before the end of January, and this downward tendency was apparent throughout the first half of the year (probably due to an absence of a good spring demand), as in June 1s. 5d. was the value on the spot, some quantity changing hands at this figure. This was the lowest point touched. About the end of July the first reports were circulated stating that new crop was not being freely gathered, and this brought about an advance which steadily continued until 2s. 6d. was reached in October. During the past month, however, a "bear" movement was initiated from New York, the idea being, it is said, to depress the markets both in London and New York in order to buy cheaply at the sources of production. As a consequence several ton lots changed hands on this market at prices down to 2s. 2d., after which the value was raised to 2s. 4d., where it now remains. There are several parties here who are endeavouring to maintain prices, and it will entirely depend upon the demand what the price will be. With values at the present high level it is quite natural that wholesale druggists and patent-medicine manufacturers both at home and abroad will purchase only sufficient for their immediate requirements, which seems to be the only safe method to pursue. It is too generally assumed that there is no substitute for senega, but quillaia has similar properties, although it is somewhat more active in some respects, and the British Pharmacopœia now recognises a tincture of quillaia, of which the dose is  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 fl. dr.

## New Pharmacopœias.

WE announced some time ago the publication of a new edition of the Swedish Pharmacopœia. It is twenty-three years since the previous edition was published, and the new one reflects in a remarkable manner the progress of pharmacy during the period, although it can scarcely be said that it is up-to-date in every respect. Still, it gives such things as the saponification and iodine numbers for oils, the following being the factors adopted:—

|                           | Sap. No. | Iod. No. |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| Ol. amygdalarum ... ..    | 190      | 95       |
| Ol. cacao ... ..          | 195      | 35       |
| Ol. crotonis ... ..       | 212      | 103      |
| Ol. jecoris aselli ... .. | 180      | 145      |
| Ol. lini ... ..           | 190      | 170      |
| Ol. olivarum ... ..       | 193      | 83       |
| Ol. rapæ ... ..           | 173      | 100      |
| Ol. ricini ... ..         | 181      | 84       |

The polarimeter is employed for determining the optical rotation of essential oils, and it is notable in this section



that oil of caraway gives place to carvone, oil of cassia to cinamal, or pure cinnamic aldehyde, and anethol is also recognised. Most of the drugs that contain alkaloids or other well-ascertained active principles are subjected to test before they are employed in medicine: thus, belladonna-leaves, henbane-leaves, digitalis-leaves, and lobelia are roughly tested for their active constituents, the identity of which is also determined, but no precise assay is made. Opium in the moist state is required to yield from 10 to 12 per cent. of morphine by Dieterich's method, and if it contains more than the maximum amount it is to be diluted with milk sugar. Ipecacuanha-root should yield 2 per cent. of emetine, it is stated, but the assay-process indicates 2 per cent. of total alkaloids, reckoned as emetine, by super-saturation of the alkaloidal residue with decinormal hydrochloric acid and determination of unused acid with decinormal potash solution. Nux vomica has its alkaloidal content fixed at 3 per cent., the method of analysis being to extract the alkaloids with a mixture of ether (4) and chloroform (1), evaporating a portion of the macerate, dissolving in dilute spirit, and titrating with decinormal hydrochloric acid. Some of the so-called narcotic extracts also have their alkaloidal content fixed. For example, extract of belladonna is 1.3 per cent., fluid extract of ipecacuanha 1.5 per cent., extract of nux vomica 15 to 17 per cent., and extract of opium 17 to 20 per cent., the methods of analysis employed being similar to those for the crude drugs. In many cases the Pharmacopœia fixes the limit of moisture in the drugs, as well as the percentage of ash yielded on incineration. The tests of identity and purity are, on the whole, good. Powders are defined as fine, medium fine, medium coarse, and coarse, corresponding to sieves with 40, 30, 20, and 10 meshes to the linear centimetre. The Pharmacopœia also contains references to veterinary medicines, with a table of the doses of the more active remedies for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and dogs. The omissions consist chiefly of antiquated remedies, and the room provided by their exclusion gives place to the more important synthetic remedies and drugs introduced during the past quarter of a century, such as antipyrin, apomorphine, hamamelis, iodoform, saccharin, salicylates, sulphonal, strophanthus, and trional.

It has been definitely decided to recompile the Swiss Pharmacopœia, and the new (and fourth) edition is expected in 1905. The "Pharmacopœia Helvetica" was first published in 1865 by the Swiss Apotheker Association. A second edition followed in 1872, and a recompilation by a joint committee in German, French, and Italian in 1893, the two first editions having been in Latin. The third edition was accepted as official by all the cantons, with the exception of Glarus, and was therefore recognised as such by the Federal Council. The Swiss Pharmacists' Association tried to obtain the sanction of the Federal Council for the appointment of a permanent Pharmacopœia Committee six years ago, but failing in that they proceeded, in 1897, together with the Swiss Medical Committee, to appoint a private permanent committee, the work of which the Federation supported with yearly grants of money. In their report for 1900 to the Federal Council, the Committee advised a recompilation of the Pharmacopœia, and again urged the appointment of an official committee, to consist of from fifteen to nineteen members and a special secretary, to undertake the work. The Federal Council has now expressed itself in favour of an official committee, and all the cantons have agreed to recognise Pharm. Helv. IV. as the obligatory Pharmacopœia. The appointment of the official committee, which is to consist of pharmaceutical and medical representatives, may therefore shortly be expected,

and the private committee will be dissolved. The Federation will make a grant of 12,000f. for the three years' work, and the approaching edition is to be in Latin only.

#### ENTIRE DRUGS AS REMEDIES.

We have had several inquiries recently in regard to the sale of headache-powders composed of acetanilide or other simple entire drug, which when recommended as remedies are exempt from stamp-duty. It appears not to be sufficiently understood that if no printed recommendation of such articles is made or any proprietary right claimed, they are exempt from stamp-duty, as are compound preparations under the same circumstances. Thus, acetanilide labelled simply "Headache-powder" is not liable to duty in respect to the fact that it is not recommended as well as owing to the fact that it is an entire drug, consequently such powders may be sold by any person, licensed or unlicensed. If any entire drug is recommended or proprietary rights claimed for it, it is still exempt from stamp-duty, but may only be sold by persons as named in the Act and those who hold a licence.

#### THE COACH AND THE POISONS.

A correspondent to the *St. James's Gazette*, commenting on the remarks of Mr. John Troutbeck concerning the "Sale of Poisons" Act (see *C & D.*, November 23, page 829), details his own experience. The writer possesses a Cambridge honours degree, and for years has coached in chemistry. Recently requiring corrosive sublimate for photographic purposes he went to a neighbouring chemist, where he was well known by sight as a customer. The sale was refused although the would-be purchaser gave his name, address, status, and reason for wanting the sublimate. He was, however, referred to a branch at some distance, where photographic chemicals were stocked, and after signing the poisons-book he was served with an 8-oz. saturated solution of the poison, although he had never been in the shop before. On another occasion, in a different neighbourhood, he wanted white arsenic to demonstrate Marsh's test. He was everywhere refused a sale, except under a doctor's order, even by the chemist who had fitted out and who regularly supplied his laboratory. Contrasted with these difficulties, he records the ease with which at an oilman's he obtained oxalic acid without a question being asked, and he marvels at the strange differentiation in the treatment of three deadly poisons. Mr. Troutbeck wondered at the chemist who sold cyanide for photographic purposes being so easily deceived. The wonder appears to be that chemists are not oftener deceived, and the writer's tribute is but another to the many already given of the hyper-carefulness of the chemist.

#### SALE OF VERMIN-KILLERS.

If vermin-killing articles, each of which contains enough poison to kill two men, can be bought by any person without let or hindrance, there is every facility thus given to individuals of criminal intent, and the Act which is destined to prevent the too free sale of poisons becomes absolutely useless.

Thus the *Medical Press*, which is the organ of the medical profession in Ireland, where the law does not require sales of vermin-killers to be entered in the poisons-book. In Great Britain there is a doubt about the matter due to the fact that the general practice (owing to the Pharmaceutical Society's lead) has been to enter such sales. We have already shown that strict interpretation of the terms of the resolution which scheduled vermin-killers does not place them in Part I of the schedule. The Poisons Committee will probably have to consider the matter, as arsenical sheep-dips come within the definition "compounds containing any poison . . . when prepared or sold for the destruction of vermin," and the practice in regard to the sale of these is



usually exactly the opposite to the sale of a preparation of strychnine for destroying mice.

#### LAMPS, SIGNS, AND OTHER STRUCTURES.

We mentioned last week that the London County Council are formulating new by-laws for the regulation of lamps, signs, and other structures overhanging the public way not being in the City. See page 827 for full particulars. We would advise chemists and druggists who are affected by the proposed by-laws to write immediately to the Clerk of the Council, Spring Gardens, S.W., making any suggestions that they think of in regard to the matter. The Building Act Committee will meet on Monday, December 2, and any suggestions that are submitted in time will be fully considered by the committee, the Chairman of which is Mr. Goddard Clarke, whose intimate knowledge of the drug-trade and its interests will be of special advantage.

#### A SODA CENTENARY.

This year is the centenary of the discovery of bicarbonate of sodium. It was in the year 1801 that Valentine Rose the younger, the first owner of the Schwan Apotheke, Berlin, described the bicarbonate as "a neutral and perfectly saturated carbonate of soda," and stated that it was made by passing carbonic-acid gas through a solution of soda. It was first officialised in the Prussian Pharmacopœia. The *Pharmaceutische Zeitung* has appropriately recalled the whole matter by an historical account of soda and its production, which concludes with these quaint lines:—

Geht's deiner Frau, sie weiss nicht, wie,  
So reiche schnell ihr Natron bi.  
Fehlt's deiner Frau, sie weiss nicht wo,  
Dann gib ihr Natron bicar b o.  
Ich lob' in allen Fällen d r u m  
Das Natron bicarbonic u m.

#### ANOTHER JUBILEE.

Mr. S. R. Atkins's suggestion for a "Founders' Evening" of the Pharmaceutical Society is by no means far-fetched. In 1852 the first Pharmacy Bill was passed. It was introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Jacob Bell on June 12, 1851, but did not get through that Session. He, however, reintroduced it on February 12, 1852, it was read a second time on March 17, and was passed on June 30. The middle of summer is not a good time to celebrate a jubilee, but February 12, 1902, will be the second Wednesday of the month, and the Council of the Society might do worse than have a display of founders' relics in the Examination-hall that evening, with a memorial address in the Lecture-theatre between 8 and 9. The jubilee of the first statutory recognition of pharmaceutical education in Great Britain is an event worth punctuating, although we Britishers are rather a hard lot to move in the matter of historic celebrations. If a *conversazione* flavour were given to the "Founders' Evening" it would "draw" better.

#### "ROOM AT THE TOP."

Apart from the letters which we have already published commenting upon a note in our issue of November 2, we have had others which indicate that some who have tried to get the top places are by no means convinced that they are worth having. Several correspondents (Major men) complain that when they tried for situations "at the top" they were subjected to an examination ordeal such as Bloomsbury Square never attempted, and generally it is stated that the salaries offered (80% to 100% to begin) are utterly inadequate. From this point of view the matter is best summed up by a correspondent (59/14) of mature experience and in business for himself, who is of opinion that young pharmacists have not had the proper experience which would make them good analysts. He proceeds in the following strain:—

My own experience embraces several years' work in an analytical laboratory, where all descriptions of commercial produce and

manufactured products were examined, and where thousands of pounds turned upon extreme nicety and absolute accuracy of manipulation (which would open the eyes of most pharmacists, and especially assistants, to what accuracy and care really mean), also some time in a wholesale pharmaceutical laboratory where the above experience was practically thrown away, excepting so far as it had trained me to habits of exactitude. Before going into business I advertised my experience again and again, without any reply, so that there can only occasionally be a demand for such experience. As a pharmacist, my time and expenses in gaining the above experience have practically been wasted—certainly it enabled me to pass the Pharmaceutical examination without further expense or study, the entrance-fee and my expenses to and from London for the examination being all the outlay I was put to; and during the years I have been in business I attribute my success in some degree to this special experience, as it has spared me the necessity of relying altogether on the "wholesale house," as is now the rule.

We do not think our note of November 2 gave the slightest suggestion that a pharmaceutical training makes a man a competent analyst, or that either in the wholesale or retail the young man who has just finished the examination period of his life can hope to get to the top in salaries straight away.

### Business Changes.

MR. P. R. LEWIS, chemist, Broadway, Cardiff, has sold his business to Mr. H. Jepson.

HOLLOWAY'S PHARMACY STORES has just been opened at 5 Commerce Place, Dalwich Village, S.E.

MR. D. R. JONES, chemist and druggist, is opening a business at 160 Cathays Terrace, Cardiff.

MR. W. E. WILLIAMS, chemist and druggist, has recently bought the business of Mr. Lloyd, chemist, Bridgend.

MR. J. CLEWORTH, chemist and druggist, has purchased a chemist's business at 53 Dacie Street, Greenhays, Manchester.

MR. H. KENNETH PRYKE, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. C. R. Sharman, at Dover Road, Northfleet, Kent.

MR. C. J. REID, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business of Messrs. Gilbert & Hall at 276 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

MESSRS. T. KERFOOT & Co., manufacturing pharmaceutical chemists, Ashton-under-Lyne, have acquired premises at 189 Holloway Road, London, N.

MR. T. G. BATTING, chemist, of Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, has purchased the business of the late Mr. S. B. Maggs, pharmaceutical chemist, Marina, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

THE business of chemist and druggist, with wine-licence attached, carried on at 121 Oldham Road, Ripponden, Halifax, by Mr. John Arthur Dyson, has been transferred to Mr. Chas. Ellis Wood.

MESSRS. SALMON, ODY & Co., patent-truss makers, late of 292 Strand, W.C., have acquired premises at 157 in the same thoroughfare, which they will occupy as soon as alterations are completed.

MR. E. ORLANDO TIMS, chemist and druggist, late manager to Messrs. Smith & Son, Leamington Spa, has purchased the business formerly carried on by Mr. A. W. Walburn at London Road, Alderley Edge.

MESSRS. HAMER & LEWIS, pharmaceutical chemists, Pendleton, Manchester, have purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. C. H. Graham, at Chorley Road, Swinton. They will carry it on as a branch.

FIBROLEUM, a new artificial leather, is made from pieces of refuse skin and hides cut small. The pieces are put into a vat filled with alkali. After the mass has become pulpy, it is taken out of the vat, and put through a paper-making machine. The resulting paper-like substance is cut into large sheets, which are laid one upon another, in lots of from 100 to 1,000, and put into a hydraulic press, to remove all moisture.



## Winter Session.

### Chemical Society.

At the meeting held in Burlington House, W., on Thursday evening, November 21, the President (Dr. Emerson Reynolds, F.R.S.) was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of ordinary members, but the "front bench" Fellows were conspicuous by their absence. After the customary reading of certificates, and formal admission of new members, the PRESIDENT announced that he had received a requisition asking him to call an

#### EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

of the Society, to which two resolutions were to be submitted. The first proposes an alteration of the by-laws, which would take from the Council the power of altering the time of meeting, and would vest this privilege in a special general meeting of Fellows. The second proposed that the meetings shall be held as heretofore—viz., at 8 P.M. on Thursdays. The President and Council have arranged to hold the special meeting on December 12, at 8 P.M. This requisition is the result of the action of the Council in deciding to hold half the meetings of this session in the afternoon, in spite of the opposition of most of the younger members, who regularly attend the meetings, to this change. The agitation in favour of a reversion to the evening meetings comes chiefly from chemists employed in works; but it is noteworthy that some of the leading spirits are teachers anxious to preserve for their former students the privilege of attending these meetings.

There was no lack of papers down for reading, but very few of their authors put in an appearance to read them. The first contribution was made by Mr. STEVENS, who described his attempts to repeat the work of Glütz in preparing the hydrochloride of thiourea, and how he finally succeeded in obtaining the pure salt by the action of strong hydrochloric acid on the base, previous experimenters having, curiously enough, never tried this method.

The next paper was a contribution from the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, by its director, Dr. F. B. POWER and Mr. F. H. LEES, on the constituents of the

#### ESSENTIAL OIL OF ASARUM CANADENSE.

About twenty years ago Dr. Power first examined this oil, and observed it to contain a low-boiling terpene, two isomeric alcohols of the composition  $C_{10}H_{18}O$ , but differing in their boiling-points, odour, and other characters; a body boiling at about  $250^{\circ}$ , likewise contained in the oil of *Asarum europaeum*, which was identified by Petersen as methyl eugenol; and a high-boiling liquid of a deep-blue colour. The alcohols were found to be present in the oil chiefly as acetic esters, but a very small amount of a higher acid was also obtained, which was thought to consist of, or at least to contain, valeric acid.

With the advance in knowledge of the chemistry of essential oils, and the means now available for identifying many of their constituents by means of well-defined and for the most part crystallisable derivatives, it was thought desirable to again take up the study of this oil. The results of the present investigation by Dr. Power, in association with Mr. Lees, have shown that asarum oil is exceedingly complex in composition. This may be indicated by the following summary of its constituents, together with the names of the compounds by means of which a number of the latter were identified:—(1) A phenol,  $C_9H_7O_2$ , having a somewhat creosote-like odour, and giving in alcoholic solution a violet colour with ferric chloride; (2) pinene (nitrosochloride, m.p.  $103^{\circ}$ – $104^{\circ}$ , and nitropiperidine, m.p.  $118^{\circ}$ – $119^{\circ}$ ); (3) *n*. linalool (citral and citryl- $\beta$ -naphthocinchonic acid, m.p.  $195^{\circ}$ – $198^{\circ}$ ); (4) *l*. borneol (camphor, m.p.  $175^{\circ}$ ,  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  –  $40.3^{\circ}$ , and oxine, m.p.  $115^{\circ}$ – $116^{\circ}$ ); (5) *l*. terpineol (a keto-lactone,  $C_{10}H_{16}O_3$ , m.p.  $62^{\circ}$ – $63^{\circ}$ , terebic acid,  $C_{10}H_{16}O_4$ , m.p.  $173^{\circ}$ – $174^{\circ}$ , and dipentene dihydriodide,  $C_{10}H_{18}I_2$ , m.p.  $89^{\circ}$ ); (6) geraniol (diphenylurethane, m.p.  $81^{\circ}$ – $82^{\circ}$ ); (7) methyl eugenol (bromo-methyl eugenol dibromide,  $C_6H_5Br(OCH_3)_2 \cdot C_6H_5Br$ , m.p.  $78^{\circ}$ – $79^{\circ}$ ); it was shown that methyl-*iso*-eugenol does not exist in the oil; (8) a high

boiling oil of a blue colour, consisting of alcoholic bodies of undetermined composition; (9) a lactone,  $C_{11}H_{20}O_2$ , having a highly aromatic odour, but present in very small amount; (10) palmitic acid, in very small amount; (11) acetic acid, combined with the alcohols of the oil in the form of esters; (12) a mixture of fatty acids, ranging from  $C_6H_{12}O_2$  to  $C_{12}H_{24}O_2$ , and contained in the oil chiefly in a free state.

A quantitative determination of the principal constituents showed these to be contained in the oil in approximately the following amounts: Methyl eugenol 36.9 per cent.; alcohols,  $C_{10}H_{18}O$ , calculated as acetic esters, 27.5 per cent.; alcohols,  $C_{10}H_{18}O$ , in a free state, 13.3 per cent. The amount of alcohols is somewhat larger than that indicated, owing to the fact that linalool and terpineol cannot be quantitatively acetylated. As the amount of pinene found by direct fractionation was about 2 per cent., the high-boiling constituents (blue oil, &c.) would therefore constitute nearly 20 per cent. of the oil.

In the course of the discussion the PRESIDENT inquired as to the difference between *Asarum* and *Serpentaria*, the *A. canadense* being known as Canada snake-root, whereas *Serpentaria* is called Virginia snake-root.

Mr. DAVIS pointed out that Kremers had recently shown that the dark colour of the oil of wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) is probably due to small quantities of thymoquinone formed by the combination of thymoquinone and hydrothymoquinone, and asked whether the dark-blue colour of the higher boiling-point fractions of the oil obtained by the authors might not be caused by the presence of a quinhydrone.

Dr. POWER replied that, although both *Asarum* and *Serpentaria* belong to the *Aristolochiaceae*, they are quite different, as are also the essential oils obtained from them. The oil from *A. europaeum* differs from that from *A. canadense* in that the former contains the crystalline substance asarone, but apparently none of the alcohols or esters which are present in the latter. With regard to the colour of the oil, the chemical change noted by Kremers in oil of monarda would account for the red or brown colour of certain oils, but the colour of the blue oils must be attributed to substances of quite a different character.

No more papers were read, although one at least was probably of considerable interest—viz., a contribution from Dr. Tilden, F.R.S., and Mr. H. Burrows, A.R.C.S., M.P.S., on "Limettin."

Amongst the applicants for the Fellowship of the Society, to be balloted for next week, are Messrs. A. R. Bennett, pharmaceutical chemist, Nottingham; Harding Bickford, chemist and druggist, Adelaide, S. Australia; Henry Boyers, M.P.S.I., Sligo; H. Wippell Gadd, chemist and druggist, Exeter; C. T. G. Hermann, chemist and druggist, London Hospital, E.; Harold F. F. Varley, formerly student in Pharmaceutical Society's School, 22 Strathblaine Road, New Wandsworth, S.W.

### Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (North British Branch).

The first evening meeting of the session of the North British Branch was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on November 20, Mr. Peter Boa in the chair. The inaugural sessional address, delivered by Dr. Leonard Dobbin, on "Some Aspects of Pharmaceutical Education and Examination in Relation to the Future of Pharmacy," was printed in the *C. & D.* of November 23, page 857.

Dr. GIBSON moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and said, with regard to the teaching of pharmacy generally, that often the method of teaching had much to do with the failure of candidates. They were too apt to forget that pharmacy was an exceptionally experimental science, and there was often too early an introduction to such things as theoretical equations before the learners had sufficient knowledge to give an opinion upon them.

Mr. J. L. EWING, seconding the vote of thanks, spoke of the address as an eminently practical one. Dr. Dobbin had spoken on the present and future prospects of the pharmacist with an unprejudiced mind. With much he had said regarding the Preliminary examination he thoroughly agreed.



When the examination was raised to the highest pitch it always resulted in this—that the number of youths who flocked to the profession began to fall short. That had been seen not only in their profession but in the profession of law, and even in divinity. He did not think the standard of education at the present time was any higher than what it was in the old parochial schools of Scotland.

#### THE HIGHER EDUCATION

would be the means of bringing a better class of men, who would be ready to prepare themselves for the examinations for entrance to the profession. He also thoroughly agreed with Dr. Dobbin when he said the examination was not the only cause of the falling-off in the number of apprentices; and, with regard to the division of the Minor examination, he had long been of opinion that it was desirable, and the experience he gained as Chairman of the Board in Scotland confirmed him in it. It was too much to expect young men to compress into that examination so much knowledge. It was very hard that a man, if he passed one subject creditably and fell short in another, should be required to go all over the same examination again. (Applause.) He thought they should follow in the lines of what was done in the University.

The vote of thanks having been passed,

Dr. DOBBIN returned thanks, and, with reference to what Mr. Ewing had said about the raising of the examination by a sudden jump, he pointed out that two years' notice was given, and that, as usual when an announcement of that kind was given, there was an unusual rush to get in while things were comparatively easy. It was not so long since the portals were closed on the easy method, and they were now in the slack water. That was a mere temporary affair, and he was satisfied the time would come when that state of affairs in pharmacy would be remedied. (Applause.)

#### Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

ABOUT sixty chemists assembled at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, E.C., on November 27, in answer to a circular sent out by the Western Chemists' Association, to consider the advisability of forming an association of London chemists.

The chair was occupied by Mr. W. F. Gulliver, and he was supported by the officials of the Western Chemists' Association, of which he is President. There were present the London councillors of the Pharmaceutical Society—Messrs. Allen, Carteighe, Cooper, Glyn-Jones, Harrington, Hills, Martindale, and Wootton, and the West End and City districts were well represented.

Mr. GULLIVER set the ball rolling by tracing the origin of the movement to a local meeting at Camberwell, when the desire was expressed that some organisation should exist to voice the opinions of London chemists. The Western Chemists' Association wished it to be understood that whatever the outcome of the meeting it would preserve its constitution intact and unaltered. Mr. W. J. I. PHILP, on the suggestion of Mr. Glyn-Jones, mentioned that 100 postcards had been received from those unable to be present, and eighty expressed the wish to join any association that might be formed; 2,000 circulars were sent out. The suggestion was made that perhaps the divisional secretaries would give their views on the subject, but as none of them seemed inclined to, Mr. POND inquired what the Western Chemists' Association did, was it a sort of "smoking-concert association"? Mr. GULLIVER explained that his Association held about eight meetings during the year and discussed business questions, and occasionally had a social evening. The Association was open to chemists from all parts of London. Then, said Mr. POND, What is there left for a new association to do?

#### MR. CARTEIGHE SHUDDERS.

Mr. CARTEIGHE, after explaining that he did not attend the meetings of the Western Chemists' Association, of which he was a member, because of his official connection with the Pharmaceutical Society, said it was a useful organisation. It had, however, the fault that although it admitted members from the whole of the metropolis, it was but a local association, and did not represent the chemists of London. He

favoured the formation of local associations rather than one huge organisation, which would require permanent offices and paid officers of exceptional organising ability. The tendency of the day seemed to be towards district organisation, but he shuddered to think what would happen if a metropolitan association of 2,000 or 3,000 members should find itself politically opposed to the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. Carteighe did not think the replies to the circular were sufficiently encouraging for them to found a big association.

#### WOULD WORRY THE SOCIETY.

Mr. J. C. PENTNEY did not think Mr. Carteighe need shudder, but if the Pharmaceutical Society could be got to shudder it would be better for chemists. What was wanted was a society which would stand up for chemists, and not only pass them at examinations. They could do with more Glyn-Joneses to look after their rights. He (the speaker) would favour the policy of worrying the Society, which does nothing whatever for the chemists. He proposed the resolution "That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that a Metropolitan Chemists' Association be formed." Mr. POND seconded the resolution, but would prefer the name London to Metropolitan. His plan would be to found an association, which in time could have local branches, with a subscription of 1½d. a week. Voluntary local collectors could also be employed to collect 6d. a month for the mother Society.

#### SHOULD FEEL THE PULSE.

Mr. CAMPBELL said he would pay a subscription of 10s. 6d. to any Society which would support full prices. There was need of a Society which would protect their rights. The Pharmaceutical Society never took the opportunity of feeling the chemist's pulse. He had been in business sixteen years, but had only once been called on by a representative of the Society—he supposed it had too much to do. Mr. CRACKNELL protested against abusing the Pharmaceutical Society, and favoured the formation of local associations to hold central meetings occasionally. Mr. GLYN-JONES did not fear that the association would ever be diametrically opposed to the Pharmaceutical Society; the increased life among chemists, which brought with it respect for the Society, was due to the rise of local associations. London had no associations to express its views. He favoured the formation of a metropolitan association with local committees.

#### NEED NOT BE AFRAID.

Mr. JONES (Norwood) said the Pharmaceutical Society need not have any fear of a big meeting of chemists; the Holborn meeting was large, and no harm came of it. There were enough replies to the circular to form the nucleus of an association, but he was convinced that it would be impossible to form local associations, as chemists would never attend. Some organisation was needed to protect them against coroners' lack of knowledge of law and catch prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Mr. WALTER HILLS, from his experience, said the formation of local associations has been to the advantage of the Pharmaceutical Society. It must be borne in mind, however, that London differed from other districts; the government of the police force and water-supply and formation of local boroughs showed clearly that there is something peculiar in London to which conditions obtaining in other towns do not apply. There was a danger that, if the Association succeeded, it might under certain conditions use its political influence against the Pharmaceutical Society—"As was done in 1868," ejaculated Mr. HICKS, "with the result that we got a Poisons Bill instead of a Pharmacy Bill."

#### VERY DIFFERENT NOW.

Mr. ANDREWS said circumstances have altered since then. The tendency of the Western Chemists' Association had always been to help the Pharmaceutical Society. The principles on which an association should be founded would be to "sink trade jealousy and try and foster professional brotherhood." Mr. MARTINDALE said if the Association was not limited to members of the Pharmaceutical Society it might become opposed to it. Something was undoubtedly wanted to show unanimity when they went to Parliament,



and if the local associations formed could be affiliated to the Pharmaceutical Society it would be better. Mr. POND said it was so difficult to get chemists together that to be afraid of having too many was ridiculous. He saw no reason to be afraid, however big the Association became.

#### A LITTLE SELFISHNESS.

Mr. GAUBERT regretted that Mr. Carteighe had struck a note of discord, and that the circular convening the meeting had a note of selfishness in it when it stated that whatever happened the Western Association would remain unaltered. There could not be two Richmonds in the field—it was necessary that the Western Chemists' Association should dissolve, as it contained some of the talent that was wanted in the big organisation. Mr. CARTEIGHE explained that he said nothing against organisation, only against the form it was to take, and also was of opinion that the Western Association must be dissolved if a metropolitan association was to be formed. Mr. POND said he understood the Western Chemists' Association and the new association were to be one and the same thing; if otherwise, the proposal must come to nothing. Mr. GULLIVER reiterated that the Western Chemists' Association intended to remain intact.

#### WISE MEN FROM THE EAST.

Mr. PENTNEY replied to the criticisms on his motion. The Western Chemists' Association only contained West-end chemists. There were a few chemists in the south, north, and even the east, where the wise men came from. ("Come from—did not stop there," some one interposed, amidst roars of laughter.) Something had been said about abusing the Pharmaceutical Society. He did not abuse it; he only stated a few plain facts. A metropolitan association should back up the Society and stimulate it to help chemists, instead of being a hindrance. The resolution, proposed by Mr. PENTNEY, and seconded by Mr. POND, was put and carried, though only about half those present voted. This was followed by another resolution, proposed by Mr. GLYN-JONES, "That a committee be appointed to carry into effect the foregoing resolution," which was carried on the understanding that the Western Chemists' Association will assist. The committee appointed consists of Messrs. Pond, Pentney, Pellew, Jones (Norwood), Campbell, and Burton, who have power to add to their number. Votes of thanks ended the meeting.

#### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING was held at 75 Newman Street, W., on November 21. The PRESIDENT, on taking the chair, said he had a very pleasant duty to perform. The Association, as they knew, offered a silver medal, a copy of Remington's "Practice of Pharmacy," and 5*l.* (given by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.) for the best paper on a subject of pharmaceutical interest; and the committee had decided to give this award to Mr. H. S. Coupland for a paper on "Glucose" which he read last session. He hoped this was only the precursor to many more interesting papers from Mr. Coupland. Mr. COUPLAND modestly denied that he deserved all the nice things said about him by the President, and expressed regret that the competition for the prize had not been keener. The President then introduced Mr. W. L. HOWIE, F.R.S.E., who delivered a most interesting address, descriptive of

#### THE SCOTTISH ALPS.

The subject was illustrated by about 150 lantern-views taken from photographs principally by the lecturer, who explained that, as a member of the Scottish Alpine Club, he had not scrupled to draw upon his fellow-members' negatives where necessary. Seldom, if ever, has the C.A.A. been treated to such an excellent pictorial display as Mr. Howie was enabled to throw upon the screen. The lecturer's description of his ascents, some of which were undertaken in weather of almost arctic severity, was extremely vivid, and the views, showing the different stages of the "climb," added the finishing touch of realism to Mr. Howie's word-painting.

Mr. Howie was accorded a very warm vote of thanks for the pleasurable evening he had afforded the Association. In returning thanks, the lecturer said he would be very pleased to answer any question about his photos and slides,

and a general conversation on photographic methods brought the meeting to a close.

The following resolution has been passed by the Council:—

That the rooms of the Association be opened from 6.30 on Thursday evenings for social purposes for the convenience of members, and that literature and amusements be provided.

#### Chemists' and Druggists' Society (Ireland).

At a committee meeting on November 20, at Garfield Chambers, Belfast, Mr. R. A. Jamison in the chair, Messrs. W. Corbett and Hugh Holms were elected members and Messrs. T. M. Woods, A. L. Proctor, and Hugh Graham associates.

The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. Rankin) submitted the proposed subjects for the druggists' assistants' classes at the Technical Institute. These were considered satisfactory, and were recommended to the general meeting. Mr. JOHN FRACKELTON brought forward a resolution regarding the annual concert, and stated that, as last year, this could be got up without expense to the Society (the advertisements on the programme paying all expenses). It was resolved to have a musical evening in January, Messrs. J. Frackelton, W. J. Gibson, J. D. Carse, R. A. Jamison, and the Hon. Secretary to act as a committee in charge of the same.

A report from the Prices Committee was brought forward by Mr. CARSE, and after a discussion it was finally agreed to take the opinion of the members regarding the matter.

A meeting of the members and associates was afterwards held, when Sir James Haslett, M.P. (President of the Society), occupied the chair.

The first business on the agenda-paper was consideration of a draft of subjects for proposed classes for druggists, submitted by Mr. C. Forth, principal of the New Technical Institute. The subjects embraced chemistry, materia medica, and botany, with the adulteration of drugs, the doses of drugs, the antidotes of poisons, the appearance of drugs and chemical salts of the B.P. in general use, together with the Weights and Measures (metric system), as also the Acts of Parliament governing the sale of poisons. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that while the proposed syllabus exceeded slightly the subjects of examinations as fixed by the Acts, still he considered it was in every way beneficial for their apprentices and assistants to be well grounded in all the subjects as proposed. He considered it much in their favour that all these subjects were about to be well and efficiently taught; and having gone through the list as submitted it was passed. Sir JAMES said he hoped the young men would take advantage of these classes, which were being established in their interests and at moderate fees. The HON. SECRETARY reported that it was fully expected these classes would be in working order from January 1. It was proposed that the class be held at 8 till 9.30 on Monday evenings.

#### WHAT IS A DOSE?

An instructive discussion was introduced by the CHAIRMAN on doses of ordinary drugs and medicines, and as to the right of the retailer to state the dose of an article. He pointed out that what was a fair dose for one person might act dangerously on another.

Mr. BROWN said that if he refused to tell a customer the dose of a drug he might just as well close his shop. Several interesting points were brought out during the conversation, after which the report on the prices of proprietary articles was presented and considered, but the further action regarding it was adjourned.

#### TRADE CUSTOM.

The CHAIRMAN asked if the sale of liniments of the B.P., made with methylated spirit as allowed by the Excise for external use, was not contrary to the B.P. Would it not be wise to suggest to the proper authorities that when revising the B.P. a formula be included for methylated liniments now largely made and sold. The suggestion was considered a good one, and it was thought wise to have it made public so as to have an expression of opinion on it, the Irish Pharmacy Act, 1875, being so worded that chemists must only sell articles compounded in accordance with the formulas of the B.P.



A question was asked regarding the sale of ung. hydrarg., as to what practice was observed in Belfast, whether strong or diluted ointment was sold retail. The opinion of the majority was that the diluted was generally sold. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that that was wrong, and stated that in his own establishment strong was always given when "mercurial ointment" was asked for; but when the diluted was sold it was so labelled as green or blue ointment.

### Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on November 27, the President (Mr. F. Noad Clark) in the chair. About a dozen members were present. The amalgamation desired by the Chemists' Assistants' Union was again referred to, but Mr. Pickering not being present as anticipated, the subject was again postponed, the Chairman intimating that the feeling of the Council was that the matter could not be entertained. The smoker of last year in connection with the Association being so successful, the proposal has been mooted that another be held, and Mr. Duff was delegated to make arrangements. Mr. G. W. LINDSAY then read a paper on

#### "GLASS AND GLASS-BOTTLES,"

which was an excellent account of the processes used in making glass and such bottles as are used by the dispenser.

In the discussion which ensued considerable contempt was manifested by Mr. DUFF, Mr. WELFORD, and others at the type of dispensing-bottle (a crudely finished round bottle) shown by Mr. Lindsay, as in use in his dispensary. These gentlemen held that dispensers in public institutions or elsewhere should send out their mixture in as elegant and careful a manner as in private practice. Both disclaimed any intention of reflecting on Mr. Lindsay, who was probably hampered by a parsimonious Board of Guardians. Mr. R. E. JONES (Poplar), in an interesting speech, told how in his earlier days he had made grosses of mucilage-bottles. He explained the method of manufacture, and said with regard to Messrs. Duff and Welford's objections to Mr. Lindsay's bottle, it was more the physic that was inside the bottle than the bottle itself that was to be considered, and he felt sure that Mr. Lindsay's clients got accurate dispensing, which was the main thing. A friend, formerly a chemist, went into the bottle-trade, which caused the following epigram:—

The dearest part of physic is the bottle, so they say,  
So he gave up selling physic, and sells bottles to this day.

Mr. WELFORD, in the course of his remarks, said the Association was misnamed. The members of the Association did more dispensing by far than any qualified chemist almost. He himself dispensed 228 prescriptions in one day recently, including 180 scheduled poisons. He thought a more appropriate title would be the "Public and Poor-law Dispensing Chemists' Association." In reply, Mr. LINDSAY said he did not like the bottles he used, and had mentioned the matter to his Guardians on more than one occasion, but nothing had been done to change it.

### Huddersfield Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of the above Association was held on November 20. The PRESIDENT (Mr. R. C. Walshaw) occupied the chair, and, after the preliminary business had been disposed of, he read a paper dealing with pharmaceutical politics, and embodying suggestions for future legislation. The paper was closely followed, and was succeeded by a discussion, which it was eventually found necessary to adjourn until December 11. The President of the Dewsbury Association (Mr. W. STEAD), and Mr. BROADHEAD, of Batley, were present, and took part in the discussion.

### Northampton Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting of this Association was held at the Black Boy Hotel, Northampton, on November 22. The PRESIDENT (Mr. W. McKinnell), who was in the chair, read a letter from Mr. John Bingley (Divisional Secretary), pointing out that there were twenty-four registered chemists

in Northampton, and only five of them subscribed to the Benevolent Fund. The Secretary of the Association was authorised to collect subscriptions for the Fund.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the discussion at the last meeting, hoped the chemists of Northampton would be more loyal to themselves and to their business, and decline to supply the large cutting stores in emergencies. He wished the stores no harm, but he certainly did not wish them better trade, and he should refuse to make up any of those obscure prescriptions which they were in the habit of sending to the chemists of the town. There are certain articles dispensing chemists keep which the stores do not usually stock, and if chemists refuse to supply them in emergencies, the stores would be placed in an awkward position, and could not supply the customer for twenty-four, or even forty-eight, hours.

The PRESIDENT suggested that steps should be taken to get the chemists of Wellingborough, Kettering, Rushden, and other towns in Northamptonshire to join the Association at Northampton; and it was decided to invite them to a meeting on December 13 to talk matters over.

### Nottingham Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Albert Hotel, Nottingham, on Wednesday evening, November 27, Mr. A. E. Beilby in the chair. There was a good attendance. Mr. Croft, of Tibshelf, was elected a member of the Association, and Mr. Lawrence was elected an Associate.

Mr. A. RUSSELL BENNET read a paper on "Some Curious Points in the Laws Affecting Chemists and the Sale of Drugs." In the course of his remarks he referred to the frequent prosecutions in respect to sweet spirit of nitre and the difficulty in keeping that preparation. He had found the best method of keeping the spirit to be 1-lb. amber-coloured stopper-bottles, inverted, and kept in a cool cellar. He then described how chemists generally do not adhere to the strict letter of the law when such substances as blue ointment, carbonate of iron, opium liniment, magnesia, and oil of juniper are asked for. He considered that Magistrates who heard prosecutions against chemists should know something about the trade; but it had been found in many cases that if a chemist could convince a Magistrate that in serving a customer he had followed what was the custom of the trade, and that the customer had been given what he really wanted, the Magistrate did not take a serious view of the matter, so long as there was no adulteration and nothing to prejudice the buyer. A discussion followed.

### Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.

THE first annual meeting of the members was held at the Park Hotel on Wednesday afternoon, November 27, Mr. A. Hagon presiding.

The HON. SECRETARY read the report of the committee, which narrated the events of the year. An earnest effort had been made by the education sub-committee to carry a full scheme of education for the Minor examination, and the Cardiff College Council had now a scheme before it, and awaited the appointment of a new principal to place the teaching on a practical basis and in suitable hands. Messrs. Meyrick and Stowe had also made an offer as to classes for the first examination, which the committee recommended to be accepted. The committee suggested that the Secretary of the Association should place particulars before the Assistants' Association. Probably the success of the year was the scheme for co-operative buying, which had proved a valuable and remunerative feature, and thanks were due to Mr. A. J. Bellamy, to whom the success was largely due. The committee pointed out that it would prevent disappointment and greatly enhance the usefulness of this scheme if buyers would use every endeavour to keep their stocks well in hand. Other events were referred to, and thanks accorded to Mr. R. Drane for his exhibit at the recent conversazione. The balance-sheet showed an adverse balance of 5*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, principally due to the unusual expenses incident to the formation of the Association.

The PRESIDENT thought the report of the committee amply justified the existence of the Association. Twelve months ago they were in a position of splendid isolation.



They had no business combination, nor had they any social intercourse with each other. The scheme of co-operative buying had been the means of adding members to the Association, and by the social intercourse to which it led they had practically done away with the friction of competition. He moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. JABEZ A. JONES seconded the motion, and expressed the hope that in future members would take greater interest in the botanical section of the Park.

Mr. A. COLEMAN, one of the auditors, thought it should be explained that their deficit was mainly due to the postponement of the inaugural proceedings of the Association through the death of the Queen.

The motion was then carried.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of President, officers, and committee, Messrs. Griffiths and Rees (Barry), being appointed scrutineers. A ballot for the Presidency resulted in the almost unanimous election of Mr. M. Drane. Mr. W. N. Hopkins, of Barry, was elected Vice-President; Mr. A. Hagon, Treasurer; Mr. A. J. Bellamy, Hon. Secretary; and Messrs. A. Coleman, D. Anthony, H. H. Prosser (Penarth), Jabez A. Jones, R. Mumford, W. J. Sanders, W. E. Rees (Barry), A. Griffiths, and W. H. Furnival, committee.

### Glasgow Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE opening meeting of the third session of this Association was held in the Waterloo Rooms, Glasgow, on November 21, when the PRESIDENT (Mr. J. P. Gilmour) delivered an address on

#### THE GLASGOW DOCTOR'S SHOP: A STUDY IN ECONOMIC PARASITISM.

In the course of his paper Mr. Gilmour traced the doctor's shop to its origin in the early practice of the Glasgow Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons licensing candidates according to their "art and knowledge," so that a person who qualified first as a "pharmacien" or "apothecary," on subsequently passing as a surgeon combined the two titles, and was known as "surgeon-apothecary," or more rarely as "surgeon-pharmacien," continuing the shop which he had occupied as an apothecary. From the beginning of its history in 1579 the Glasgow Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons issued a pharmacien's diploma, the formula of which used to be that the holder was qualified to "sell drugs and make up recipes according to the doctor's directions." The right to practise pharmacy is also embodied in the medical licentiates' diploma granted by the Faculty. Pharmacien's diplomas were issued regularly until 1830, and intermittently thereafter until the passing of the Pharmacy Act in 1868. Shortly before that time two prominent Glasgow pharmacists of the day called on the Secretary to the Faculty, and suggested that the Faculty should revive and systematically exercise its powers and practice of examining and granting diplomas in pharmacy *per se*; but the Secretary did not think it probable that the Faculty would entertain the idea, and the matter ended there. They could only speculate as to the intention of the two prominent pharmacists, said Mr. Gilmour. Did they desire to attain diploma rank easily and cheaply for themselves, or did they hope to make Glasgow independent of the Pharmaceutical Society? In this connection it was amusing to learn that some of the present-day shopkeeping medical men in Glasgow, in their alarm at the recent prosecutions, were bethinking themselves of a chance of deliverance from the same source; and if only the Faculty could be induced to cast the *egis* of its chartered authority over its licentiates all might be well for them. As the Faculty now forbids its own Fellows to keep open shop, however, in direct opposition to its previous practice, the hope of relief from that quarter does not appear brilliant. In any event, even if the Faculty were foolhardy enough to re-assert its chartered rights, such a step would entail awkward legal questions as to the geographical and other limitation of its jurisdiction. To illustrate the

#### CROWTH AND MAGNITUDE

of the institution, Mr. Gilmour submitted figures which he had collected, chiefly from old local directories, as to the ratio of doctors' shops to druggists' shops in Glasgow, and of both to population at different periods. In 1783, with a population of 47,000, there were 5 druggists' and 3 doctors' shops in

the city, giving 1 shop to 5,875 of the population. In 1828, when the population was computed at 200,000, the numbers were approximately 13 druggists' and 64 doctors' shops, or 1 shop to 2,728 of the population. The city at the same time boasted of 5 surgeon-dentists, 1 oculist, and an ambidextrous genius who described himself as a "surgeon and engineer." In 1848, the population having risen to 320,000, the figures were:—Druggists, 45; surgeons, also druggists, 110; ratio to population, 1 to 2,064. At the present time the returns show:—Druggists' shops, 180; surgeon-druggists, 170, or 1 to 2,857 of the inhabitants. Relatively to druggists' shops, the doctors' shops are diminishing—a matter for congratulation in view of the fact that in all these 170 shops there are only 9 qualified assistants. Mr. Gilmour then gave a description of a normal doctor's shop in Glasgow at the present day, in which chaotic squalor, he said, was the predominant feature. He spoke of the incompetence in pharmacy of the proprietor and his boy or girl assistant, and asserted that the dispensing in such establishments is carried on in crass ignorance or open defiance of all the principles of scientific compounding. Another evil consequence is that the doctor's shop perpetuates an inferior grade of pharmacists. In Glasgow and other centres where it is in distinctive competition with the qualified chemist, the status and the conditions of labour and pay of the chemist's assistant are all prejudicially affected. He was glad to observe that the General Medical Council is waking up to the seriousness of the question.

#### DISCUSSION.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, who was in the chair, referring to his experiences of doctors' shops, said he had had to discharge duties of which he had been ashamed. Mr. THOMSON supposed that the doctors' shops in Glasgow having served their day and generation would now have to go. He, however, could never see the evils that were said to exist in connection with these shops. Mr. MCCUTCHEON remarked that there were a great many chemists in Glasgow who were just as bad as the doctors. Chemists offered to give doctors a percentage on the prescriptions they dispensed. He considered that all chemists' shops in Glasgow were kept up to a certain extent by the medical men. Doctors who have shops were not so bad as they were pictured. Many of them had good businesses, and the most of these shops were really well conducted. Mr. THOMSON further complained that chemists showed lack of independence. He did not know one chemist in Glasgow who was independent or free from toadying to the doctor. The CHAIRMAN said no patient was bound to go with a prescription where the doctor sent him. He could go to his own chemist with it. He was not aware that every chemist in Glasgow toadied to doctors in so far as giving them a bonus on dispensing their prescriptions. Mr. ROSS related an incident in his own experience. He was negotiating for the purchase of a doctor's shop, and the seller wanted 10 per cent. on his prescriptions. He replied that he thought such a proceeding was scarcely in accordance with medical etiquette.

OUR report of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association meeting is unavoidably held over.

### New Books.

Abney, Sir W. de W. *Treatise on Photography*. 10th ed. 7×4½. Pp. 444. 5s. (Longmans.)

Archer, A. H. *Practical Veterinary Advice for Stockowners*. Cr. 8vo. 1s. 6d. (Vinton.)

*Cassell's Family Doctor*. By a Medical Man. New ed. 8½×5½. Pp. 768. 6s. (Cassell.)

Church, A. H. *Chemistry of Painting*. 3rd ed. 8×5½. Pp. 376. 6s. (Seeley.)

*Every Man's Own Lawyer*. By a Barrister. 39th ed. Cr. 8vo. 6s. 8d. (Lockwood.)

Leonard, J. H. *A First Course of Practical Science*. With a preface by Dr. J. H. Gladstone. 6½×4½. Pp. 150. 1s. 6d. (Murray.)



## Legal Reports.

### Trade Law.

**A Traveller may not be a Servant.**—At the hearing of a charge of embezzlement against a traveller (Wm. Turner) for a salt firm at Lambeth Police Court last week, it transpired that the prisoner had not paid in certain accounts he had collected (altogether 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*), and he explained that the firm owed him more, and he thought he was entitled to collect the money. The Magistrate (Mr. Hopkins), questioning the firm's cashier, ascertained that the prisoner was paid by commission, and might work for any other firm he pleased. Whereupon Mr. Hopkins said: Do not you know that that prevents any prosecution for embezzlement, and that he cannot be called your servant? The Witness: We were not aware of that, sir. Mr. Hopkins ordered the prisoner to be discharged.

### High Court Cases.

#### THE LAW OF SHARES IN RECIPES.

IN the Chancery Division on November 23, Mr. Justice Joyce, in the case of *Poisson v. Robertson and Turvey*, had before him a motion on behalf of the plaintiff asking that the defendant Turvey might be ordered to show him the recipe for "Tacaru," described as an infallible specific against drunkenness. The action had been tried by Mr. Justice Kekewich, who declared that the sale by defendant John Stewart Robertson to the defendant Turvey on August 7, 1900, operated only to three-eighths of a share in the recipe. The plaintiff was also entitled to a share in the remedy, and he contended that he was entitled to know what the remedy consisted of. Defendant submitted that, according to the terms of the assignment of plaintiff's share, he (Turvey) was not bound to disclose the recipe. Mr. Hughes, K.C., and Mr. Harman appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Wright Taylor appeared for Turvey.

Mr. Justice Joyce, in the course of his judgment, said the case was an extraordinary one, and he regretted he did not see his way to make the order asked for by the plaintiff. The motion asked that the plaintiff be at liberty to take copies of the original recipe and to have it handed over, and that Turvey might be ordered to produce it. His present impression was that the applicant could only succeed on the motion by showing that he had a legal or equitable property in the piece of paper knowledge or inspection of which was sought to be obtained, or that he had a contract, express or implied, that the document should be produced. It was not a title-deed, nor a thing that could pass by conveyance. It was not like copyright or anything of that kind. Under certain assignments executed Poisson and Woods had shares in what was called a secret remedy, but the documents under which Poisson took his share were not documents which provided that he should be entitled to know the remedy or recipe. On July 6, 1897, Robertson, who was beneficially entitled to one-half, executed a document on a sheet of letter-paper addressed to Poisson in these terms: "In consideration of 5*s.* I hereby assign and transfer to you one-quarter of the half-interest I own in the remedy." That contained no covenant, but it would seem to be a final completion of a transaction between the parties in respect of which 5*s.* was paid. The document was a formal one, giving a right to a fractional share or interest in the secret remedy or specific, and it did not involve the possession of the paper on which the specific was written, nor necessarily involve knowledge of what the specific remedy was. Turvey, without notice of what had passed between Robertson and Poisson, took an assignment of the whole thing from Robertson. Notwithstanding that at the trial Poisson asked that the remedy should be communicated and delivered up to him, no such relief as that was contained in the declaration made by Mr. Justice Kekewich. He was therefore in a difficulty in his present application. Possibly the plaintiff might be entitled to some injunction against Turvey's use of the remedy. On the merits he did not see his way to accede to the application, but this was without prejudice to any application Poisson might make in future. The motion was therefore dismissed.

#### CONDY'S CRYSTALS.

IN our issue of October 26, page 711, we printed a brief cable report intimating the settlement of the action between

Condy & Mitchell (Limited) and A. T. Craven, a Melbourne pharmacist. The following are the terms of the judgment:—

Upon hearing the solicitor for the above-named plaintiff and the solicitor for the above-named defendant, and the defendant hereby undertaking to refrain from selling, offering for sale, or causing to be sold as Condy's crystals any crystals other than those or not being of the plaintiff's manufacture, and from selling, offering for sale, or causing to be sold as Condy's crystals any crystals of permanganate of potash, or other such chemical, or other preparation, not being of the plaintiff's manufacture, and from representing that a solution of crystals other than those of the plaintiff's manufacture will give the plaintiff's liquid preparation known as "Condy's Fluid," and from selling, offering for sale, or causing to be sold to persons asking for, or desirous of procuring, the plaintiff's said preparation permanganate of potash, or any other substances not manufactured or sold by the plaintiff as the equivalent in solution, or being the same in composition as the said preparation Condy's fluid, and from passing off by words, labels, or in any other way goods not manufactured or sold by the plaintiff in execution of orders for Condy's fluid or Condy's crystals. And the plaintiff hereby withdrawing any charges of fraud alleged against the defendant in the statement of claim herein. And by consent it is ordered that this action be and the same is hereby wholly discontinued, each party abiding its and his own costs of the action.

### Libel Act.

#### THE CHEMIST AND THE NUISANCE INSPECTOR.

THE trial of Alfred Ernest Strong, chemist, Stanhope, for having written a number of criminal libels concerning John Parker, inspector of nuisances for the Stanhope Urban Council, took place at the Durham Assizes on November 22. The police-court proceedings were reported in our issue of November 9 (page 774), and Mr. Simey, who prosecuted, detailed the various libels which it was alleged the defendant had written under several names to the Local Government Board. It was pointed out that Strong had been a candidate for the post of sanitary inspector, to which Parker was elected, and he probably felt disappointed and dissatisfied at the appointment. Several of the libellous letters were read in court, and the prosecution held that they were all in the same handwriting as a letter which a witness alleged that Strong told him he had written to the Local Government Board in the name of Fisher. Strong emphatically denied that he had written the libellous letters, or that he had ever spoken to the witness about having written a letter to the Local Government Board. In response to an invitation from Mr. Simey, defendant wrote from dictation a number of words from the letters in dispute. Mr. Simey remarked that there were eight mistakes in the spelling, and these were precisely the same mistakes as had occurred in the letters themselves.

Mr. Simey: After this do you still swear that you did not write these letters?

Defendant: I do.

Robinson Nelson, an expert in writing, said in his opinion the letters were not written by the same person.

After a short deliberation the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and Strong was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### LINIMENT OF SOAP.

AT Clerkenwell Police Court on November 23, Boots, Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited), successors to Day's Metropolitan Drug Company, 71 Camberwell Road, were summoned before Mr. D'Eyncourt by James Cowling, sanitary inspector, on behalf of the Islington Borough Council, for selling, on August 22, at 167 Upper Street, Islington, liniment of soap containing methylated alcohol, which had been substituted for the alcohol (*spiritus rectificatus*) of the Pharmacopoeia. Mr. Bramall prosecuted, and Mr. F. W. Beck defended.

The case was before the Court on October 30, when it was adjourned on the question of ownership, Mr. Beck arguing that the purchase of Day's (Limited) had not been completed by Boots (Limited).

Mr. Bramall said Day's (Limited) was purchased by the Boots Pure Drug Company, and was sold again by that company to Boots, Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited). He



produced the file from the office of the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies, showing that the contract to sell was entered into in June.

Mr. Beck contended that on August 22, when the purchase was made, Boots, Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited) were not responsible. It was true that there was a contract to purchase, but the assignment was not carried out until October 14. Day's under the agreement, took the whole of the risks of the business up to October 14. He called Mr. Spreckley, the chemist in charge of the shop in Islington where the article was sold, who stated that at that time he was in the employment of Day's; he had been engaged by them, and could be discharged by them.

Mr. D'Eyncourt, on the ground that the Boots Company were taking the profits of the business, and that Day's were simply acting as their servants, declined to go behind the file from the office of the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies.

Mr. Beck, on the question of the quality of the article sold, said it was quite true that the British Pharmacopœia prescribed the method by which soap liniment should be manufactured. The alcohol used was merely for the purpose of dissolving the camphor and oil of rosemary, which were two of the principal ingredients in liniment of soap. The Pharmacopœia laid down that alcohol was rectified spirit, but he denied that the Pharmacopœia was binding. The case of *Randerson v. Dickens* only established that the British Pharmacopœia was a *prima facie* standard, but where there was a commercial standard evidence on that point, he contended, was permissible. He was prepared with evidence that in this case it was the custom to use methylated spirit.

Mr. D'Eyncourt: You will have difficulty in persuading me to go behind the Pharmacopœia, and I don't think I can hear that evidence.

Mr. Beck argued that methylated spirit was used in the manufacture of liniment of soap, because on *spiritus rectificatus* there was a duty of 18s. 6d. per gal. He put in the Inland Revenue order permitting the use of methylated spirit in this and certain other Pharmacopœia preparations, and contended that in the marmalade case heard in the High Court a few days previously it had been clearly laid down that it must be proved before conviction not only that the article sold was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded, but also that it was sold to the prejudice of the purchaser. The cheaper spirit used in the preparation of this liniment did not render the article less efficacious as a drug, and was not to the prejudice of the purchaser.

Mr. D'Eyncourt asked for a report of this case, and Mr. Beck said he had only the *Times* report, which he produced. Mr. Bramall then said he would prove prejudice to the purchaser, and called the medical officer of health for Clerkenwell, who said the methylated article might be about the same in medicinal effect, but was of a much more unpleasant odour.

Mr. Beck retorted that the defendant was not charged with selling a perfume.

Dr. J. C. Thresh, F.I.C., medical officer of health for Chelmsford, public analyst for Essex, &c., was then called, and stated that it was the usual practice of chemists to make soap liniment with methylated spirit, and that the article so made was of exactly the same medical value. Cross-examined, he admitted that the smell was not quite so pleasant as that of the liniment made with rectified spirit.

Mr. D'Eyncourt declined to hear further evidence, stating that when an article such as liniment of soap was asked for, the purchaser was entitled to get that prescribed by the Pharmacopœia, unless the vendor explained that what he was selling was a different article. He held that the judgment in *Randerson v. Dickens* fully supported this view. He should convict the defendants. He believed they were in a large way of business.

Mr. Bramall: That is so.

Mr. D'Eyncourt: Are there any previous convictions against them?

The inspector said he was not aware that there were.

Mr. D'Eyncourt: I shall impose the full penalty—20l., with ten guineas costs.

Mr. Beck asked the Magistrate to state a case on the two questions on which he had refused to hear evidence—first,

of the Pharmacopœia as a standard; and, secondly, on the question of prejudice.

Mr. D'Eyncourt said he would consider that application, and would reply to it that afternoon.

A SIMILAR case was then called against Parke's Drug-stores (Limited), in respect to a sale of soap-liniment at their shop at 251 Upper Street, Islington. Dr. Teed's certificate was to the effect that this also was made with methylated instead of with rectified spirit. This case had been adjourned in order that a sample might be sent to Somerset House. This had been done, and the report read confirmed Dr. Teed's analysis. Mr. Beck said he appeared for the defence in this case also, and tendered the same evidence. Mr. D'Eyncourt said he should refuse to hear it on the same grounds as before. He asked if there had been any previous convictions recorded against this firm, and the inspector said there were three—one for the sale of oil of juniper, one for spirit of nitre, and one for almond oil. While the records of these convictions were being searched for, some conversation took place in reference to the case Mr. Beck had asked for, and ultimately the Magistrate said he would adjourn both cases [this one and the case against Boots, just decided] until that day week, and would then hear evidence in regard to prejudice. Mr. Beck: With great respect, sir, I would prefer to have the case. Besides, you have convicted in the first case. Mr. D'Eyncourt: I say I will adjourn both cases until this day week.

#### SPIRIT OF NITROUS ETHER.

AT Bishop Auckland on November 18, Thomas Young, of Howden-le-Wear, was ordered to pay 7s. costs on a summons for selling spirit of nitrous ether which Mr. Stock, the public analyst, certified to be deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent of 57.4 per cent.

ON Wednesday, November 27, at Burnley, a grocer named Michael Brennan was fined 10s. and costs for selling spirit of nitrous ether which was deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent of 96 per cent., having yielded only 0.07 per cent. of ethyl nitrite.

#### BORIC-ACID OINTMENT.

AT Lambeth on November 21, Thomas Henry Tyrell, chemist and druggist, carrying on business at Southampton Street, Camberwell, was summoned for selling boric-acid ointment which Dr. F. L. Teed, public analyst, said consisted of 83 per cent. of boric acid and 91.7 per cent. of yellow-paraffin ointment. There was thus a deficiency of boric acid, and yellow had been substituted for white paraffin ointment. Mr. Marsden prosecuted for the Camberwell Borough Council, and Mr. C. H. Kirby (of Neve, Beck & Kirby) defended. In reply to Mr. Kirby, Dr. Teed said the amount of boric acid he would pass in a sample of boric-acid ointment would be up to 9.7. He did not regard the difference in the colour of the ointment as serious, but he thought it right to mention it in his certificate. In the course of a technical cross-examination by Mr. Kirby, Dr. Teed said he was aware that Lord Lister gave the base of the ointment as paraffin and did not mention the colour. A weaker ointment might be prescribed by a physician under certain circumstances. He had never made this ointment himself. There was, chemically, practically no difference between yellow and white paraffin.

Mr. Francis (the Magistrate) asked the witness whether the process he adopted in his analysis could have tended to diminish the boric acid that should have been present.

Dr. Teed: No, sir.

Dr. F. Stevens, medical officer of health for Camberwell, said any diminution in the quantity of the boric acid would tend to diminish the healing-power of the ointment.

Mr. Tyrell, the defendant, who said he had been in business for forty years, deposed that he made the ointment according to the British Pharmacopœia—1 part of boric acid to 9 parts of paraffin ointment. He could only account for the deficiency by the impossibility of thoroughly getting the parts equally divided.

Expert evidence for the defence was given by Mr. H. Copeland, and Mr. Martin Priest said he analysed the second portion of the sample, and found it to contain 9.4 per cent. of boric acid. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones was also called for the defence, and the further hearing of the case was



adjourned in order that the third portion of the sample might be analysed by the Somerset House authorities.

#### TO THE PREJUDICE OF THE PURCHASER.

THE Lord Chief Justice, with Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Channell, sitting in the King's Bench Division of the High Court, gave judgment last week (November 21) in the case of *Smith v. Wisden and others, Justices, and White*, which was an appeal from a decision of the Sussex Quarter Sessions, who had convicted the appellant, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875, of unlawfully selling, to the prejudice of the purchaser, marmalade adulterated with 13 per cent. of starch glucose, on the grounds that the purchaser desired to buy a substance composed of oranges cooked or preserved with cane or beet sugar. Mr. Bousfield, K.C., and Mr. M. Smith appeared for the appellant; Mr. Boxall and Mr. Horton Smith for the respondents. The argument in the case took up the better part of two sittings of the Court. For the appellant it was argued generally that the addition of glucose to marmalade is not to the prejudice of the customer, as it preserves the original condition of the marmalade, and is not injurious to health.

The Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said the real difficulty in the case was to know how to deal with it without sending it back to the Magistrates for further information, because they could not disturb any finding of fact at which they had arrived. He, therefore, could not have arrived at the conclusion he had unless he came to the conclusion that there was no evidence in support of the Magistrates' decision in reference to one of the points it involved. As to what the respondents asked for, they were precluded from considering by the finding of the Quarter Sessions, and he could only say he should not have come to the same conclusion—viz., that when a man asked for marmalade he thought he was going to obtain only oranges and sugar—because there were a number of other ingredients which might very properly be put into it. He thought, however, that in order to support this conviction the Magistrates must go further, and there must be evidence not only that the article was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded, but that it was to the prejudice of the purchaser to sell it to him. Looking at this matter fairly, and not seeking to construe this Act as a weapon of oppression, or otherwise than as a protection of the purchaser, in this case it appeared to him that the purchaser got an article which, if it was different at all, was different in that it was rather better. He agreed that, if they thought the Magistrates had come to the conclusion from general experience based on their own knowledge, they ought not to interfere; but he thought, from the way they had stated the case, they desired to have the opinion of the Court upon the question of whether, upon the facts stated, they might come to the conclusion they did. In his judgment there was no evidence of any inferior quality or adulteration in the ordinary sense of the word, and the appeal ought to be allowed, and the conviction quashed.

The other Lords Justices concurred, and the appeal was allowed and the conviction quashed, with costs.

#### DIVIDING THE SAMPLE.

At the Halifax West Riding Court on November 23, Henry Howarth, manager of the Midgley Industrial Society's Store, was summoned for selling adulterated camphorated oil. The inspector deposed to purchasing from the defendant two bottles of camphorated oil and dividing the contents for analysis. The analyst's certificate was put in, showing that the oil contained only 11.33 per cent. of camphor, instead of 21 per cent., as required by the British Pharmacopœia. In cross-examination by Mr. W. Storey (for the defence), the inspector said he mixed the contents of both bottles together and then divided them. He did not divide the contents of each bottle separately. Mr. Storey thereupon submitted that the case must fail. Section 14 of the 1875 Act requires that the contents of each bottle should be dealt with separately. In support of this he quoted the ruling of Mr. Justice Darling in the action *Mason v. Cowdery*. The Bench upheld the objection, and dismissed the case.

#### CHALK IN GREGORY'S POWDER.

At the Kensington Petty Sessions on November 26, Mr. John Lewis, 135 Brackenbury Road, Hammersmith, W., was sum-

moned, under Section 6, for selling Gregory's powder certified to contain 65.6 per cent. of calcium carbonate. In answer to the Clerk, the defendant practically admitted the offence. The purchase having been proved, Mr. William Chattaway, F.I.C., public analyst to the Borough Council, gave evidence as to his analysis, and in reply to Mr. H. B. Halswell (Chairman of the Magistrates) said that chalk had practically quite a reverse action to that of magnesia, as chalk is not aperient like magnesia. The defendant explained that the powder was made in July last, and as far as he could ascertain, the chalk must have been put in by mistake.

Mr. Halswell: We do not say that there was any intention to defraud, but it is necessary that the public should be protected in such matters. We must carry out the law. I take it that you are a qualified man?

The Defendant: No, sir.

Mr. Halswell: Do I understand that you carry on a chemist's business without being qualified?

The Defendant: It is not a chemist's shop, but a drug-store.

Mr. Halswell: I should have thought that was the same thing.

The Defendant: I do not sell poisons.

Mr. Halswell: Do you dispense?

The Defendant: No; there is no dispensary there.

Mr. Halswell: If I brought a prescription to the shop to be made up, would you make it up?

The Defendant: If there was a poison in it I should not. It is quite legal to carry on a drug-store as I do.

Mr. Halswell: We do not say that there was any fraud, but, as I said, the public must be protected, and we must see that the lives of people are not prejudiced or endangered by such offences. You must be fined 5*l*. We have medical men on the Bench, and we look upon the mistake as a very serious one.

At the defendant's request, a week was allowed in which to pay the fine.

#### ALMOND OIL.

At the Guildhall, London, on November 26, before Mr. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, Mr. William Jopling, chemist, Gresham Street, E.C., was summoned for selling on October 4 almond oil which contained "100 per cent. of oil other than almond oil." Mr. T. G. Vickery (Assistant City Solicitor) prosecuted, and Mr. F. W. Beck appeared for the defendant. Evidence of the purchase and analysis having been given, Mr. Beck explained that his client had purchased the business six weeks ago, and had sold the oil from a bottle which was labelled in such a way that he considered it to be *ol. amygd. dulc.* There were several kinds of almond oil, and he had learnt from the recent owner of the business that the kind sold was kept to supply a hairdresser. Camphor, camphorated oil, eucalyptus oil, and castor oil were purchased by the inspector, besides the almond oil, all of which were "perfectly right." The Alderman said there could be no doubt that the defendant believed that he sold almond oil, but he was obliged to impose a penalty, which would be 5*s.* and 32*s.* costs.

#### County Court Cases.

##### A CHEMIST'S CLAIM.

ON November 21 at the Walsall County Court, an interpleader action was heard, in which the execution creditor was L. B. Tuchman, a jeweller of Edgbaston, the defendant Samuel Tranter, of Walsall, and the claimant John Percival Fast, chemist and druggist, of Allewell Street, Walsall. The claim was in respect of a post-nuptial settlement of furniture upon Tranter's wife. She was housekeeper for Mr. Fast, and in consideration of the settlement Tranter had his meals at Mr. Fast's house, and practically lived there. Mr. Fast claimed the furniture as trustee for the wife under the settlement. Mr. Vatchell, for the execution creditor, held that the settlement purported to be made by Tranter simply out of affection for his wife, and the fact that there was another consideration ought to have been stated in the settlement. The Judge held that this was so, and that the settlement was null and void, and also because it was calculated to injure Tranter's creditors. He gave judgment in favour of Tuchman, with costs.



## A CHEMICAL ENGINEER'S FEE.

In the City of London Court on November 22, before Judge Renton, K.C., M.P., Dr. Edward Berchten, chemical engineer, Dashwood House, Old Broad Street, E.C., sued Mr. T. H. Wiggins, Gainsborough House, Rylett Road, Ravenscourt Park, for the sum of 5*l.* 5*s.* for preparing certain specifications for erecting machinery and plant in India, with a view to distilling petroleum. The defendant denied being a party to any bargain. He said he had inquiries from India, and wrote to plaintiff, but nothing came of it at the time. Last year the gentleman from India came to this country, and he took him to see the plaintiff, who dealt directly with the gentleman. Major Burton, R.E., who shared plaintiff's office, corroborated his evidence, and the Judge found for the plaintiff, with costs.

## THE CHEMIST AND THE CYCLIST.

At the Birkenhead County Court last week, before Judge Bowen Rowlands, K.C., Henry Johnson, a Liverpool porter, claimed from Mr. C. H. Schumacher, chemist and druggist, Heswall, the sum of 2*l.* 12*s.* for damages caused to his bicycle through defendant's trap coming into collision with it. Evidence for the plaintiff having been given, Mr. Schumacher said, on the night in question, while driving with a friend, he met two cyclists bending over their machines, and riding at a very fast pace. Thinking they would naturally look after themselves he drove straight on. Instead of turning behind the trap, as his companion had done, the plaintiff, however, tried to pass in front of the pony, with the result that they came into collision. The Judge said the defendant had given his case away by admitting that he had driven straight on, and had not taken any means to avert a collision. Judgment for the plaintiff.

## GOODS TO BE EXAMINED ON DELIVERY.

At the Southwark County Court on November 26, before Judge Addison, K.C., Slater Brothers (Limited), surgical and pharmaceutical appliance makers, of Dyers' Buildings, Holborn, were sued by a glass-manufacturer named Bibbey, of Montague Close, Southwark, who claimed 3*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* for glass bottles supplied. The plaintiff said the bottles, which were made to a special order, were delivered in July, but no complaint was made until that summons was issued, although he made several applications for payment. One of the defendants stated that owing to defects it was impossible to use six dozen of the bottles. This fault, however, was not discovered until quite recently, as they only examined the bottles as they used them. The Judge said the law allowed a reasonable time for the discovery of apparent defects in goods sold, and if no complaint was made within a reasonable time the buyer was entitled to consider the goods accepted. If this were not the law, people would not be able to carry on their business. It was the duty of the defendants to have examined the bottles when delivered. He gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.

## Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* ROGERS BROTHERS, 21 Mincing Lane, E.C., Colonial Brokers. —A receiving order has been made at the London Bankruptcy Court against E. B. and H. A. E. Rogers, trading in partnership as above, and on whose behalf a petition was presented by Mr. Wm. Beck, solicitor to the proceedings. An order of adjudication in bankruptcy was also made by the Registrar. The liabilities are roughly estimated at 80,000*l.*, and the firm's difficulties are ascribed to the failure of Messrs. Wallis, Son & Co., of Tooley Street, S.E., with whom the debtors had been engaged in heavy financial transactions.

*Re* CHARLES RICHARD VALENTINE, Wellington Chambers, London Bridge, Colonial Broker, &c. —The public examination of this debtor was held on November 26, before Mr. Registrar Linklater, at the London Bankruptcy Court, and upon the application of the Official Receiver the hearing was adjourned for three weeks to enable the debtor to amend the statement of his affairs and to file an account showing the disposal of all moneys received by him since the receiving order.

*Re* WILLIAM HANBURY, formerly Chemist in Belfast, now residing in Essex. —At the Belfast Bankruptcy Court this debtor applied for a certificate of conformity. He became bankrupt nearly twelve years ago, having carried on the business of dispensing chemist in High Street, Belfast, in succession to Messrs. Wheeler & Whitaker. Dr. Peter Macaulay, in support of the application, produced a letter from Mr. Allworthy written in March, 1896, stating that he had no reason to think that the bankrupt did not make a full disclosure as to his estate, and adding that he gave every assistance required for the realisation of his estate. Dr. Whitaker, who was a creditor for 1,253*l.*, supported the application. About fifty creditors had been served with notice of that application, and there was no objection. The certificate was granted.

*Re* THOMAS & SHORT, 7 Crosby Square, E.C., Export and Import Merchants.

The first meeting of creditors was held on Wednesday at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. C. A. Pope, Assistant-Receiver, under the failure of J. R. Short, export and import merchant, trading as Thomas & Short, at 7 Crosby Square, E.C. The debtor ascribes his position to losses on accommodating bill transactions with Messrs. Roger Brothers, Messrs. Wallis, Sons & Co., and Messrs. Ransome & Co., all of which firms are in the Court. The troubles in China are also given as a cause of the failure. The draft accounts show total liabilities, 45,945*l.* (unsecured, 28,877*l.*), and assets, 1,112*l.* No offer was submitted on the debtor's behalf, and Mr. F. S. Salamon, chartered accountant, was appointed as trustee to administer the estate in bankruptcy, assisted by a committee of inspection.

## Gazette.

## Partnerships Dissolved.

**Hebron, Daniel Robert**, has retired from the firm of Damancy & Co. (or Damancy, Calvert & Co.), carrying on business at 82 & 84 Duke Street, Liverpool, as manufacturing chemists and wholesale druggists.

**Wraith, C. E., and Wood, H.**, under the style of Wraith & Wood, Folkestone, mineral water manufacturers.

## The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

## RECEIVING ORDER.

**Levy, Alfred Isaac** (trading as J. H. Morrison & Co.), Houndsditch, E., and Amhurst Road, Hackney, N.E., sponge merchant.

## ADJUDICATIONS.

**Forbes, Peter Campbell**, Morley, Yorkshire, chemist.

**Rogers, Edward Beauchamp, and Rogers, Henry Norman Everard** (late carrying on business as Rogers Brothers), Mincing Lane, E.C., Colonial brokers.

**Smith, Edward Percival**, Beccles, veterinary surgeon.

## ORDER MADE ON APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE.

**McCulloch, Robert Leslie**, Bradford, and late Eccles and Stalybridge, Lancashire, herbalist, discharge refused, with liberty to apply again at the expiration of two years.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Jessop, Richard Henry**, trading as R. H. Jessop & Co., Eagle Works, Back Lord Street, and residing at 134 Gibbett Street, both Halifax, wholesale druggist and drysaler. Trustee, James R. Learoyd, Lancashire and Yorkshire Bank Chambers, Halifax, chartered accountant. Dated, November 18; filed, November 23. Liabilities unsecured, 472*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*; estimated net assets, 305*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

|  | £   | s.  | d. |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| Acton & Borman, London ...                 | ... | 20  | 0  |
| Cannon & Co. (Limited), Lincoln ...        | ... | 27  | 0  |
| Dalton, J. & E., & Co., New Mills ...      | ... | 11  | 0  |
| Lofthouse & Saltner, Hull ...              | ... | 18  | 0  |
| Midland Vinegar Company, Birmingham ...    | ... | 19  | 0  |
| Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., Manchester ...  | ... | 16  | 0  |
| Sissons Brothers & Co. (Limited), Hull ... | ... | 34  | 0  |
| Wright, Crossley & Co., Liverpool ...      | ... | 15  | 0  |
| Bankers' claims ...                        | ... | 205 | 0  |



**Todd, Matthew James**, trading as the Millfield Printing Company, 8 Alexandra Terrace, and residing at 15 General Gordon Terrace, Sunderland, Durham, printer, late chemist and druggist. Trustee, Robert A. Brown, 16 John Street, Sunderland, C.A. Dated, November 11; filed, November 14. Liabilities unsecured, 654. 5s. 3d.; estimated net assets, 3607. The creditors are:—

|   | £   | s. | d. |
|---|-----|----|----|
| Coates, J., & Son, Sunderland ...       | 80  | 0  | 0  |
| Davis, J., Sunderland ...               | 381 | 0  | 0  |
| Friend, H., Sunderland ...              | 45  | 0  | 0  |
| Hall, Dunbar & Co., Leith ...           | 12  | 0  | 0  |
| Ismay & Sons, Newcastle ...             | 15  | 0  | 0  |
| Moran & Sons, Sunderland ...            | 18  | 0  | 0  |
| Robinson & Co. (Limited), Newcastle ... | 13  | 0  | 0  |
| Strong, Hanbury & Co. (Limited), London | 15  | 0  | 0  |

## New Companies & Company News.

**GEORGE CLARK & SON (LIMITED).**—Capital 75,000£, in 17. shares. Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern, and to continue the business of brewing-sugar manufacturers and isinglass-merchants now carried on at Broadway Works, Millwall Docks, Poplar, E., as "George Clark & Son"; also to carry on the business of chemists and druggists, manufacturers of and dealers in proprietary articles, &c. The first directors are John B. Clark, John Clark, Herbert N. Clark, and Percy G. Clark. Registered office, Broadway Works, Millwall Docks, E.

**DOBSON & NALL (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,000£, in 107. shares (1,500 6-per-cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To acquire the business carried on as "Jabez Nall & Co. (Limited)," at Penistone, near Sheffield, and at Monk Bretton, near Barnsley, and elsewhere, and the business of glass-bottle manufacturers carried on at Barnsley by W. Dobson (Limited), and to carry on the business of manufacturers and merchants of mineral-water and confectionery boxes and cases, &c. The first directors are W. E. Riley, F. G. Riley, C. R. Riley, T. Marsland, A. P. Blaxter, jun., and J. Nall. Qualification, 500£. Remuneration of ordinary directors, 300£. per annum, divisible. J. Nall is the managing director, with 300£. per annum as remuneration. Registered office, the Oaks Glass-bottle Works, Barnsley.

**EASTERN DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 1,000£, in 107. shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Dovercourt as "The Eastern Drug Company," and to carry on the business of wholesale and retail druggists, chemists, druggists, oil and colour men, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, manufacturers of and dealers in electrical, chemical, surgical, photographic, and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—G. T. Woolridge, Elmville, Dovercourt, gentleman; Mrs. E. Woolridge, 3 Loucay Road, Southsea; Mrs. E. M. Whitney, 9 Sweetbriar Road, Edmonton; E. Whitney, 9 Sweetbriar Road, Edmonton, schoolmaster; Mrs. G. Jones, Eastern Drug Company's Stores, High Street, Dovercourt; J. D. Jones, Eastern Drug Company's Stores, High Street, Dovercourt, analytical chemist; Miss A. F. Woolridge, 4 Loucay Road, Southsea; Mrs. M. M. Kent, 63 Stamford Road, Brighton; A. L. Kent, 63 Stamford Road, Brighton, accountant; and C. T. Woolridge, 19 Welch Road, Southsea, gentleman. No initial public issue. The number of directors is not to be fewer than three nor more than seven; the first are G. T. Woolridge (chairman), E. Whitney, J. D. Jones, and A. Kent. Qualification, 1 share. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 97 High Street, Dovercourt.

**BRUNNER, MOND & CO. (LIMITED).**—The directors have decided to declare an interim half-yearly dividend of 30 per cent. on the ordinary shares, and 7 per cent. on the preference shares.

**ESSENTIAL-OIL IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS (LIMITED).**—Creditors should forward particulars of their claims to the liquidator, Mr. R. Raphael, 59 Moorgate Street, by Wednesday, December 11.

**APOLLINARIS AND JOHANNIS (LIMITED).**—The directors have declared interim dividends for the six months ended September 30 on the preference shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and on the ordinary shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. The directors state that the sales and the net profits of the six months, after writing off all advertising expenditure for the six months, show a substantial increase upon those of the corresponding six months of 1900.

**ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI COMPANY (LIMITED).**—An extraordinary general meeting of this company has been called at

the Memorial Hall, Manchester, for December 7, in response to a requisition signed by fifty-seven persons, who are the holders of not less than one-tenth of the issued capital, to consider the question of removing from the board Messrs. William Thomson (Manchester), and J. A. Morrice (Glasgow), and to consider the advisability or otherwise of electing two others to fill their places.

**CAMWAL (LIMITED).**—The report of the directors and balance-sheet for the year ended September 30 have been issued, and will be submitted at a meeting of shareholders to be held at Anderton's Hotel, 162 Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, December 3, at 3 P.M. The report states that there has been an increase of trade at all the factories. The profits (19,590£. gross, and 6,416£. net) are satisfactory, and a dividend of 5 per cent. on the preference shares and 4 per cent. on the ordinary shares is recommended. Had it not been for the 600£. loss sustained through depreciation on the company's investment in Consols, a dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares would have been declared. The London factory has been improved and extended, and at Bristol a plot of land has been purchased and a more commodious factory built. The directors regret more use has not been made by shareholders of the extra powers obtained by the reconstruction, and urge the pushing of the hotel trade. The supply of aerated waters in bulk has been initiated during the year, and is being vigorously pushed; and in order to meet further competition the directors are taking steps to acquire for the company an interest in a patent draught-arm, and chemists who wish to embark in the lucrative business of retailing drinks are advised to write to the secretary for particulars and terms. The proposed dividends will absorb 5,480£., leaving a balance of 1,189£. carried forward to meet the payments for income-tax and for a bonus to the employés. In the balance-sheet, on the credit side, tablets, giant syphons, &c., are put down at 6,152£., and syphons, bottles, cases, &c., in stock at selling-price, 32,322£. There are syphons, &c., to the amount of 25,887£. on loan, while horses, vans, furniture, and fixtures amount to 2,844£.

**H. H. WARNER & CO. (LIMITED).**—Copies of the annual report of this company, who are the manufacturers of "safe cups," were refused to the Press, and the annual meeting was held in private on November 20. The *Financial Times* publishes a copy of the directors' report, which shows that the share capital of the company consists of 55,070£. in 107. ordinaries and 132,200£. in 8-per-cent. preferences, with 70,000£. in 6-per-cent. mortgage debentures. The trading profits on the year's business to July 31, 1901, amounted to 8,653. 14s. 8d., and 386£. 6s. 9d. was received as interest, which, with 17. 15s. for transfer-fees, gave the directors 9,041. 16s. 5d. to deal with, which is accounted for as follows:—

|   | £     | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|
| To head-office expenses—including directors', trustees' and auditors' fees, manager's commissions, law-costs, salaries, &c. ... | 2,282 | 7  | 5  |
| Cost of revaluation of London plant ...   | 64    | 9  | 4  |
| To income-tax ...   | 719   | 13 | 6  |
| To interest on debentures, less tax ...   | 3,990 | 0  | 0  |
| To balance profit carried to balance-sheet ...  | 1,985 | 6  | 2  |

In the course of their report the directors say:—

While the sales both in America and the United Kingdom show an increase on the preceding year, the net profit from these branches is less in consequence of a larger expenditure in advertising, which the directors deemed it prudent to authorise in order to meet the competition in medicines allied to the company's remedies. . . . The Australian branch under the present management shows a fair increase, and with the additional means placed at the disposal of the manager, the hoard look for still further improvements in this direction. The continental branch continues to show good results.

Reference is also made to the United States business, in which the capital invested is 280,427. 9s. 4d. Our contemporary, in severely criticising the report, says:—"The ordinary shareholders have now received nothing for nine solid years, and the preference dividend is in arrear as from April 30, 1897," and suggests that if the directors do not soon come to the resolution to propose winding up, the shareholders should force a crisis.



## General Medical Council.

THE Council opened its seventy-second session on Tuesday, November 26, at the premises in Oxford Street, London, with a full attendance of members, the only absentees being Sir Wm. Gairdner and Mr. Power, from whom the President (Sir Wm. Turner, K.C.B.) had received communications stating that illness prevented their being present. Sir William Turner commenced the proceedings by delivering a

### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

In this he referred to the forthcoming election of direct representatives, stating that Dr. Glover has definitely retired owing to illness. The next point referred to was the recognition of Maltese degrees in medicine, which will be accepted for registration, and the Italian degrees matter was also dealt with, as well as other matters of a routine nature. Sir William then said:—

The Council will have before them on Wednesday seven registered practitioners, residing in the West of Scotland, who are charged with habitually employing, for the sale of scheduled poisons, persons not qualified to act as chemists or pharmaceutical assistants, and thereby causing such persons to commit breaches of the Pharmacy Act. The Council will recollect that a year ago a case of this kind was for the first time brought under their notice, and that the practitioner in question was admonished, the gravity of the charge was pointed out to him, and the case was adjourned to the June session of the present year. I was then authorised to say that the offence was grave and fraught with danger to the public, but as the case was the first to be brought before the Council, and in view of the assurance given by the practitioner that he would discontinue this conduct, the Council decided to proceed no further with the charge. As regards the practitioners whose cases are now to be investigated, it is due to them to state that the offences alleged against them were committed before the Council had pronounced its judgment on the case above alluded to, so that they could not have been informed at the time how serious a view the Council took of an offence of this nature. It will be for the Council to consider whether, after these cases have been disposed of, the time has not arrived to issue a definite declaration on this subject for the information of the profession generally.

Another penal case to be brought before you bears on the question of the employment of a registered medical practitioner by a medical aid association which, it is alleged, systematically practises canvassing for the purpose of procuring patients.

The Pharmacopoeia Committee will report on the steps taken to secure the adoption of the Addendum by India and the colonies, and on a proposal by the Government of India to purchase 3,500 copies, subject to an alteration in the formulæ of a few preparations.

The rest of the address was devoted to the education and examination questions which are to be discussed by the Council during the session. The Council requested the President to allow his address to be printed. Business was then proceeded with, and the members soon began to discuss the

### ALTERATION OF THE PENAL STANDING ORDERS.

This arose from a report of the Executive Committee. The members, by 11 to 8, declined to take the matter *in camera*, Mr. Horsley saying that the discussion would be more useful if carried on in a strictly academic way, without reference to cases, and Mr. Brown declaring that the public were much interested in the constitution of the Council. The President thereupon explained the proposed changes, mentioning at the outset that the Penal Cases Committee only refers a case to the Council if there is *prima-facie* evidence. They are a sort of grand jury; the whole business of testing the evidence and the subsequent decision rested with the Council. The chief amendments proposed were the substitution of the word "facts" for "charge" alleged or proved, &c., so as not to carry the implication beforehand that the conduct complained of is "infamous." In the standing orders regarding dental penal cases the word "proved" is to be omitted in the pronouncement "that the further consideration of the charge proved against — be postponed." After some discussion on the words "fact" and "charge," and the difference between "facts" and "allegations," Dr. McVail, in his usual uncompromising style, declared that the Council has no right to bring a man before them unless the allegations, if proved

amounts to infamous conduct. It is a terrible thing, he said, for one of the profession to be summoned before the Council, and the proposed amendments did not go far enough, and he moved that the matter be referred back to the committee. The President then said that, for a reason which he could not make public, the Council must go into *camera*. When business was resumed it was found that the standing orders had been amended as proposed; so the meeting was adjourned for the day.

The penal business commenced on Wednesday, a day earlier than usual, with the consideration of

### CHARGES AGAINST SEVEN DOCTORS.

It will be remembered that last December the case of Dr. Thomson, of Airdrie, was taken as typical of a widespread and immemorial custom in Glasgow and the West of Scotland for doctors to keep open drug-shops under the charges of unqualified persons. There have been forty-nine prosecutions under the Pharmacy Act of such unqualified sellers in the last twelve years. The seven practitioners who now appeared were:—

Alexander Stewart, L.F.P.S.G., M.B., M.S., Uphall.

Simon Prince Clark, L.S.A., L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P.S.G., 59 Dixon Avenue, Crosshill, Glasgow.

Alexander Whyte Mason, Triple Qual., Scotland, 586 Springburn Road, Glasgow.

William Allison McLachlan, M.D., Dumbarton.

James Wilson, L.F.P.S.G., Dumbarton.

Richard Allan, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P.S.G., Dumbarton.

John Steele Smith, M.B., B.S., 480 Springburn Road, Glasgow.

The charge was that they had been guilty of infamous conduct in a professional respect; that they, being registered medical practitioners, they habitually employ as assistant (or assistants) for the sale of scheduled poisons, a person (or persons) not qualified to act as a chemist (or chemists) or pharmaceutical assistant (or assistants), and thereby cause such person (or persons) to commit breaches of the Pharmacy Act.

The President having asked the respondents if they wished their cases to be regarded as a common complaint, or if any desired to stand out independently, Mr. Ferguson replied for all that they wished to be taken as one case.

Mr. Peter Morison, Jr., S.S.C., acting for the Pharmaceutical Society, in stating his case, said that it was desirable to point out that the duty of the Pharmaceutical Society was to enforce the provisions of the Act for the regulation of the sale of poisons solely in the public interest. He emphasised that point, because it had been suggested that proceedings were taken vindictively and to serve material interests. Referring to the case of Dr. Thomson, which after full inquiry was found proved by the Council last December—the President further admonishing the defendant, and expressing his sense of the gravity of the charge—Mr. Morison directed attention to the fact that the decision of the Council had not been regarded, and therefore proceedings had to be taken. The convictions on which the present charges were founded were obtained this year in April, June, and October; no complaint had been raised against a medical man except since December 1900. He did not propose to deal with the challenge of illegality raised by Dr. McLachlan, previous cases had settled that clearly, but it was important to keep in view that the Society acted for the public interest. An open shop for the sale of poisons should have a qualified person to dispense. A chemist was a shop-keeper, he gave it all his time, and his examinations secured that the provisions of the statute were carried out. A doctor was necessarily a great deal outside the shop, and though he (Mr. Morison) did not say that a doctor did not understand the sale of poisons, he was not required to have that knowledge. In most of the cases before the Council the medical men took up the position that they had been sinned against by their assistants. The doctors, however, paid the fines and condoned the offences, and were responsible for putting the assistant in a position to commit the offence. That the legal tribunals regarded the doctor as responsible Mr. Morison proved by citing a number of cases; and certainly they were, he thought, responsible before the tribunal of the Council. It had been suggested that the Pharmaceutical Society did not act in good faith, that it prosecuted doctors, but not its own members nor chemists and druggists. That, he declared,



was absolutely untrue. There had been twenty-six prosecutions against unqualified assistants employed by chemists. The Society took advice quickly and readily on all cases complained of, and those against chemists were at once dealt with.

The case of Alexander Stewart, M.B., Ch.M., The Lindens, Uphall, was first taken. Each respondent was asked by the President to read his own correspondence.

Dr. Stewart wrote to the Registrar on May 23, 1901, and again on November 12. In the former letter he dealt with the case of Mr. W. Brownrigg, his late dispenser, stating that he did not pay the fine, but advanced the money, and the circumstances of the case, from his point of view, were narrated. In the second letter he denied that he habitually employed an unqualified assistant to break the law by selling poisons, and stated that since April 23, Mr. James D. Harvey, chemist and druggist, had been his assistant. He purchased the Medical Hall, Uphall, in September, 1899 from Mr. F. Stuart, chemist, Broxburn, who, he stated, had carried it on successfully for ten years with unqualified assistants. He had carried it on on the sale lines until Brownrigg was convicted twice under the Pharmacy Act. He now realised the gravity of the question, and expressed his deep regret that the breaches of the Act had occurred in his premises. A declaration by Mr. Harvey, the assistant, was also read.

Mr. Simon Prince Clark, L.R.C.P., 59 Dixon Avenue, Glasgow, was next called upon. He read his letter of November 8 to the Registrar, in which he stated that the solicitor's letter had "caused him great grief." The letter proceeded to narrate that he started business prior to 1868 with his brother-in-law, a chemist, and himself qualified as such in July, 1870 (modified examination). Afterwards he studied medicine, keeping his open shop all the time; became L.S.A. in 1884, and L.R.C.P.E. in 1885. He has practised medicine since as a G.P., and kept his open shop. His shop assistants were not always qualified, and the one in 1897 (Andrew Gilmour) was fined for selling poisons; so was the next one, James Bryd. He now has a qualified man, and fully appreciating the Council's views, apologised, saying that nothing will be wanting on his part to meet the Council's views.

Mr. Alex. W. Mason, L.R.C.P., employed John Leckie, a registered pharmaceutical student, as his assistant in the shop 597 Springburn Road, Glasgow, and on April 25, 1901, Leckie was fined for selling carbolic acid and opium. Mr. Mason explained to the Registrar in his letter of November 5 that he had warned Luckie not to sell poisons, and now has a qualified assistant—Dougal Duncan. He therefore threw himself on the favourable consideration and leniency of the Council.

Dr. W. A. McLachlan has a shop at 7 Bridge Street, Dumbarton, and there his unqualified assistant, Annie Drysdale, sold red precipitate ointment on March 2, 1901, for which, on April 23, she was fined by the local sheriff. Dr. McLachlan, called upon to explain to the Council, wrote, on November 4, a long letter, which he, like the others, was called upon by the President to read. It was underlined in parts. Briefly, he (1) denied that he keeps a dispenser who habitually sells scheduled poisons; (2) the parish of which he is medical officer is eight miles in length, and until recently there was no pharmacist or druggist in it; (3) he has to supply poor patients with drugs and sick-bed necessities, and his open shop is really his consulting-room; (4) the article sold was red precipitate ointment "which is not mentioned in the list of scheduled poisons"—"all the same," he regretted the incident, esteemed it to be his duty to make the *amende honorable*, and would listen carefully to the Council's requirements. Later in the proceedings the doctor asked to be allowed to read a sworn declaration by Annie Drysdale, the chief interest of which was her argument (read with much emphasis by the doctor) that red precipitate ointment is not red precipitate—therefore not a scheduled poison.

Mr. James Wilson, L.F.P.S., also of Dumbarton, was next called on by the President to answer the charge of permitting Robert Matthews, a boy of 14, to sell poison in his shop, for which Robert was fined by the Sheriff on April 29, and at the same time John Grabam, the shop assistant, was also fined. Mr. Wilson, in his first letter to the Council (May 23), regretted the matter exceedingly, and in the second (November 8), stated that the sales were contrary to his instructions.

He finds it necessary to keep an open shop or surgery. He now employs a qualified man, and read affidavits from John Grabam and Robert Matthews testifying that they had sold poisons against the doctor's orders.

Mr. Richard Allan, L.R.C.P., Dumbarton, then stepped up to the rostrum to get light to aid him in reading a letter which explained why Catherine Marshall sold, against his instructions, laudanum and red precipitate ointment in April, and Easton's syrup on October 5, 1901. For both acts she was fined under the Pharmacy Act, and the doctor was, on November 11, fined under section 17, as the seller of Easton's syrup, sold contrary to the provisions of the Act. He expressed regret, and read a declaration by Miss Marshall in support of his statement that she had acted contrary to his instructions.

Mr. J. Steele Smith, M.B., had at his shop, 482 Springburn Road, Glasgow, an unqualified assistant, John McKinnell, who on June 13, 1901, was ordered to pay two fines and costs in respect to sales of laudanum and boric ointment. Dr. Smith explained in the letter which he read (November 9) that he bought the practice in September, 1900, and had to take the shop with it. McKinnell was the assistant, and had been there for years, but he warned him not to sell poisons. McKinnell had failed two or three times in the Minor, being rejected on a single and different subject on each occasion (a morsel which Dr. Smith read emphatically), and was going up again, so he (the doctor) thought he was justified in retaining his services. After McKinnell's conviction he employed a qualified man, who did badly, and was found in the shop one night in a state of helpless intoxication. John McKinnell was reinstated for a few days, and was again caught selling poison, for which, on October 19, he was fined 5*l.* and costs. This was after McKinnell had left Dr. Smith's services. Dr. Smith concluded the letter with the remark, "the charge against me is not well founded."

The President: Have you nothing more to say, Mr. Steele Smith?

Dr. Smith: No, sir, except that I keep all the poisons in a cupboard in my consulting-room of which I have the key, and my assistant cannot get poisons unless I am present.

The President: You do not express regret as the other gentlemen have done.

Dr. Smith: I regret exceedingly that I am called here to answer a charge of infamous conduct.

The President: That is not enough. The charge is that you have allowed McKinnell to break the law, not that you are here.

Dr. Smith: I express regret in the same way as these other gentlemen do.

The President seemed to take this as an expression of regret, and said that, as all the facts were admitted, it was not necessary to adduce further evidence at present.

Mr. Ferguson, referring to remarks by Mr. Morison, disclaimed that his client had accused the Council of vindictiveness in their proceedings; but the President explained that the Pharmaceutical Council was referred to, and Mr. Morison capped this by reading a passage from a speech in court, in which the charge was made.

Mr. James Wilson and Dr. McLachlan at this stage read the declarations appended to their letters, and there was a temporary small sensation respecting the former's letter being signed "Thomas Wilson." He assured the Council that his Christian name is "James."

Dr. Steele Smith, who seemed in a fighting mood, took advantage of Mr. Ferguson's interruption to tell the Council that after McKinnell's second conviction he had letters from two chemists, who told him he had an enemy in the district. He protested that the Pharmaceutical Society did not go about such proceedings impartially.

The President asked whether they would all pledge themselves in future not to keep unqualified assistants for the sale of scheduled poisons.

Dr. McLachlan asked if he could keep open his shop with an unqualified assistant, so long as he did not sell poisons?

The President was not to be caught, and said the charge was that of allowing unqualified assistants to infringe the Pharmacy Act.

Dr. McLachlan remarked that he believed he was perfectly within his rights in keeping an open shop, and wanted to know if the Council objected.



The President would not permit that to be discussed.

Mr. Clark somewhat humbly explained that he had no desire to push his drug business, but he had to keep an open shop, and employed a qualified assistant.

Mr. Peter Morison, jun., asked by the President if he had anything to say, in reply remarked that Dr. Smith was wrong about the source of the information. He also called attention to the fact that Dr. McLachlan did not give the undertaking that the others had done, and he felt it necessary to explain that Dr. McLachlan's shop was substantially a chemist's shop, filled with placards such as one for Holloway's pills and ointment, cards of penny sponges and things of that kind, with patent-medicine advertisements.

Dr. McLachlan said he rarely had patent medicines in his shop. He had a patent-medicine licence, because he had got very good results in tubercular diseases from MacKenzie's cod-liver oil emulsion—

The President would not allow him to go further with this excellent advertisement, and strangers withdrew. On returning the President said, "the Council, having carefully deliberated on the evidence contained in the documents before us, and the statements which you, gentlemen, have made, they have instructed me to read to you the decision at which they have arrived, and although I am only going to read it once, yet you must understand that this decision applies to each one of you, and the decision is as follows:—That each of you, having expressed to the Council your regret for the commission of a professional offence, which the Council has declared to be grave and fraught with danger to the public, and having pledged yourselves to abstain from any conduct affording similar ground of complaint in the future, the Council resolve to proceed no further in reference to the facts proved against you."

The Council then adjourned for tea, after which Italian degrees and ladies' colleges were discussed (the latter in connection with a revised list of scientific institutions), but we reserve these matters for our next report.

## Trade Notes.

**ON VIEW.**—The show of the sundries and specialties of Messrs. Ayrton & Sanders, of Liverpool, has now been transferred to Leeds, and apprentices, assistants, and others interested in the drug-trade, as well as pharmacists proper, are invited to inspect it.

**COD-LIVER OIL EMULSION.**—Messrs. Arthur Newton & Co., Saville Street Works, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, send us a sample of their cod-liver oil emulsion with hypophosphites. It is free from gums or alkalies, and contains 40 per cent. of oil. We find it to be a very palatable preparation, and not too thick. The emulsion is put up in panelled amber bottles, and cased in white cartons.

**ANTISEPTIC THROAT-PASTILLES.**—Messrs. Jules Denoual & Co., Carlton Works, New Cross Road, S.E., again bring their antiseptic throat-pastilles under our notice. These contain thyme, eucalyptol, menthol, gantheria, licorice, terebene, and ol. pini sylvestris. They form a pleasant bronchial stimulant, and the firm make a special offer of a 4-lb. box at reduced rates to any chemist and druggist who has not yet tried the pastilles.

**FOR THE OBESE.**—The latest biscuit of Messrs. Oallard & Co., of 65 Regent Street, W., the diabetic-food experts, is the "Kalari" biscuit for reducing obesity. These biscuits are said to be absolutely free from carbohydrates, and contain a considerable percentage of albuminoids. Although starchless and sugarless the biscuits are not unpalatable, and he or she, not knowing, may eat them with the same relish as an ordinary lunch-biscuit.

**AN ATTRACTIVE SHOWCARD.**—Messrs. Lorimer & Co. (Limited) have issued a new showcard for Parrish's "Gold Medal" chemical food, which possesses certain qualities of originality and attractiveness that are bound to make it popular. The prime attraction is the bright smiling maiden of perhaps four summers, who beams upon the observer and draws attention to the wording in clear type facing her, which tells of the virtues of Messrs. Lorimer's preparation for "building up sound strong bone, and bright healthy

children." The little lady is printed in reddish tints, and the card measures 12 by 9 inches.

**A WINDOW-SHOW.**—A window-exhibit for Armour's extract of beef is now to be seen in one or two London shops. It consists of plaster models of sides of beef hanging on a stand and two white-coated butchers (also in model) evidently engaged in preparing the extract, numerous jars of which are ranged round the front and sides. The display is novel and proves attractive, which are the main points desirable in window-decoration. Full particulars of the size, terms, &c., may be had on applying to Messrs. Armour & Co., 8 and 9 King Street, Snow Hill, E.C.

**A 1902 CALENDAR.**—We have received from Spratt's Patent (Limited), of 24 and 25 Fenchurch Street, E.C., copies of their wall calendar for the coming year. The calendar, which is, as usual, an excellent one, contains photographic reproductions of prize dogs by the half-tone process, on art paper, also drawings of prize poultry, and other household pets, such as cats, parrots and cage birds. The only criticism we can think of is that this year the usual bold type of lettering for the dates has been somewhat sacrificed to the animals, but we imagine more people would seek the calendar for the pictures than for the dates. To those of our readers who apply at once a copy will be posted on receipt of an English penny stamp, or its colonial equivalent, but early application is imperative.

**TOILET BORAX.**—In a pretty red-labelled box bearing a chaste trade-mark design and the words "Myra-Borax," comes to us a fine white powdered borax for which exceptional antiseptic and cleansing properties are claimed by the manufacturer Mr. H. Mack, of Ulm o/D. Mr. Mack (better known as the proprietor of "Pasta-Mack") lays particular stress on the merits of his specially prepared borax as an article for the toilet, but the multiplicity of uses to which according to the pamphlets enclosed Myra-Borax may be put and the elaborate directions given for its employment will make it acceptable also to the housewife who thinks more of her linen or her household goods than of her complexion. Not the least attractive item is the tiny paper-spoon enclosed in each box for measuring out the borax in correct proportion for use. The wholesale depot for Great Britain is at 32 Snow Hill, E.C.

**MESSRS. W. BUTCHER & SONS, Blackheath, S.E.,** have hit on the good idea of packing lantern-slide masks in book form, each mask being perforated, so that it can be detached. This convenient way of keeping masks will be appreciated by dealers even more than by users. The detachable masks are



put up in pads containing about fifty, selling at 6d. The usual variety of shapes is obtainable.

**OUR TOWN TRAVELLER** has had a glance round the showroom of Messrs. T. F. Bristow & Co. (Limited), St. James's Street, Clerkenwell. He found an exceptional number and variety of pretty perfume-caskets on view—far too many to mention specifically—besides a wall-case filled with novel and unique designs in cut-glass perfume-bottles. In the latter category his more or less artistic eye was arrested by a very nicely cut series of bottles, pyramidal in shape, and flat. These are produced to retail at 2s. and 3s. 6d. each. More expensive perfumes are in evidence, but the chemist who wishes to compete with his friend the grocer next door, or the draper over the way, can have a good-looking cut-glass stoppered bottle of perfume to retail at 7½d. Another, a shilling line, looks eighteenpenny value, while hexagon Ologues are supplied to retail at 10½d. to 1s. 1½d. each. These look excellent value, each bottle bearing a blue band and seal round the neck, and the larger sizes have in addition a corkscrew attached, to obviate unpleasantness in cork-drawing. Soaps in much variety are also on show, the



latest being a beautifully milled toilet soap to sell at 2d. a cake, which is having a phenomenal sale.

PEARS' ANNUAL FOR CHRISTMAS, 1901, is better than its predecessors. It contains a tale by George R. Sims entitled "Nat Harlowe, the Montebank," which one cannot rise from without finishing, so entrancingly is it written. Nat was "Jack Pudding" to a quack doctor who pitched his tent in Bartholomew Fair during the reign of Charles II. This gives the tale pharmaceutical interest, because the methods of the quack are admirably hit off. Apart from this the interest of the story hinges round the love affairs of an orphan heiress, who is living in poverty as a seamstress, and is courted by a lieutenant in the King's Guards, while her own uncle endeavours to force her into marriage with himself in order to secure the property of her father. We must not tell how the story ends, but the character of Moll Davis, the actress, one of King Charles's favourites, whom the Duke of York is not impartial to, is delightfully drawn by Mr. Sims. The tale is consistently illustrated by Mr. Frank Dadd, R.I., and along with the Annual are given three charming chromo-lithograph pictures: "Little Bobs," by Edgar Bundy, R.I.; "The Coming Nelson," by Fred Morgan; and "Witchery," by A. Piot; all of which have been printed in London. Before the Annual was published on Monday, November 25, the whole of the edition of over a quarter of a million copies had been sold out.

DOCTORS' SHOPS.—Dr. Norman Walker, one of the three candidates for the Scotch vacancy on the Medical Council, addressing a meeting in Edinburgh this week, referred to the question of doctors' shops, and defended the action of the Council in upholding the law by prosecuting practitioners who employed unqualified assistants for the sale of poisons. It was true, he said, that chemists were not halted before any body for enabling their assistants to commit breaches of the law, for the very good reason that there was no body which had any power over the chemists. The Pharmaceutical Society had no disciplinary power, although they had tried to get it. Dr. Walker also referred to the practice of chemists prescribing. He did not approve of it. It was bad for the chemist and bad for the public.

LEWIS & BURROWS (LIMITED).—The seventh ordinary general meeting was held at Winchester House, London, on Thursday, November 28. Mr. J. R. Brough, who presided and moved the adoption of the report, referred to the decrease in sales of fancy articles owing to the death of Queen Victoria and to other such matters, which had affected the profits of the year, but said, as a company, they were never in a stronger position. Mr. Matterson seconded the motion. Mr. J. E. Griffiths, alluding to the unfortunate results of the year, suggested that the directors should accept half-fees, and said that prices should have been raised to meet the decrease in profit. Mr. Campbell feared that there was some leakage in connection with the company, seeing that a vast change had taken place since last meeting. Mr. Helmsley followed in the same strain, and gave instances in which the assistants were abrupt and did not present bills until asked. Money matters were bad in the method of the takings over the counter. Several other shareholders spoke to the same effect, and Mr. Melville advanced a scheme for paying the directors' fees on a sliding scale according to the rate of dividend. Mr. Nicholls remarked that the directors had undoubtedly built up a good business for the company, but they seemed unable to make a good profit, and this was, he thought, due to want of watching details. Close to his own business-premises in the North of London was one of the company's shops, and no better show could be seen anywhere. It did nearly all the business in the district, and if all the shops were managed like this one there was no reason why they should not have 10 or 12 per cent. Mr. Matterson said that the rise in the cost of materials was equal to at least 2 per cent. in the gross profit. The Chairman, referring to the fees, said there was now a saving on this head of about 700*l.* a year. The directors were constantly visiting the shops. At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Price, the auditor, said the gross profit was 27,223*l.*, and, as to the reserve fund, he suggested that a sum of 800*l.* should be annually invested to meet the falling-in of leases. The motion was then carried unanimously, and the dividends approved of. Mr. Matterson was re-elected a director.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Vaccination.

SIR,—And I also will leave it to your readers.

Believe me, faithfully yours,

W. HARRISON MARTINDALE.

10 New Cavendish Street, W., November 25.

#### A Correction.

SIR,—Owing to a slip, for which I am alone responsible, four words were omitted from the first sentence under the heading "The Preliminary Examination" in my recent address to the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society (*C. & D.*, November 23, page 857). The sentence should begin: "The most notable step that has been taken within recent years by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain *in regard to examinations* is the abolition," &c. The words in italics were inadvertently omitted in copying out the rough draft.

Edinburgh, November 27.

LEONARD DOBBIN.

#### The Violet-cure for Cancer.

SIR,—I cannot find anything in the old herbalists that lends colour to the notion that violets or violet-leaves have any specific action on cancer. Lyte says:—

Violets bruised or stamped with barlie meale are good to be laid upon phlegmons—that is to say, boate impostumes or carbuncles—and they heale the inflammation and paine of the eyes, also the boate ulcers, and the inflammation that commeth with the falling downe of the fundament.

Both Gerard and Culpeper have something much to the same effect, but beyond that nothing at all to the point. The old dispensatories, from Culpeper downwards, appear to be equally silent, as are also the three or four old popular medical receipt-books I am possessed of. There is nothing to the point in Paracelsus "Of Aposthumes," nor in Salmon's "Synopsis Medicinæ." This "remedy" seems, therefore, to be quite a modern one. In the course of my search I have come across a few others that are not now in vogue, but are probably equally efficacious. Here is one from the Hon. Robert Boyle's "Receipts":—

Take of the warts that grow on the hinder legs of a (stone) horse, dry them gently till you can reduce them to a powder, of which you may give half a dram for a dose in any convenient vehicle.

Paracelsus recommends an ointment of frog-spawn and nightshade—treatment which remained in favour until Salmon's day. It is perhaps hardly worth mentioning that violets entered into the composition of the famous conf. hamech., which was prescribed for cancer, as they cannot have added much to the virtue of a preparation so potent. Probably they were put in as a flavouring-agent, but they appear to have been of no use even in that character, as the confection ceased to be prescribed on account of its nauseousness.

I am, &c.,

November 26.

C. C. BELL.

SIR,—In view of the widespread interest caused by the publication of the article on violet-leaves in the various newspapers during the last week or two, we have made arrangements with the growers for a regular supply of fresh violet plant. We have no doubt that many chemists will be asked to procure this article.

Yours faithfully,

Artillery Lane, E.C., November 25. POTTER & CLARKE.



## Protecting Prices.

SIR,—I am one of those who cut patents, but there is not one single patent on the P.A.T.A. list or whose proprietors allow, by an anti-cutting scheme of their own, a living profit, which is not handed over by me cheerfully to the public without any attempt at substitution or disparagement of its merits. With regard to other specialities whose proprietors seem careless as to the price at which their goods are sold, there is hardly one of them that I have not a substitute for, and which I endeavour to sell when they are asked for, and I maintain that it is to the interest of proprietors to raise the price to the public, and that such a course does not tend to the substitution of the chemist's own speciality. Take the case of the American homœopathic firm, who descended upon us a year or two ago, does "Proprietor" (whose cheap sneers at Mr. James force these lines) mean to say that he believes any serious attempts were made to substitute anything just as good? The majority of chemists and drug-stores were only too pleased not only to hand over their articles at an assured profit, but to help to push their sales by every means in their power. I issue a fifty-page list of drugs, patents, proprietaries, &c., and I was always pleased to insert their book of remedies in it knowing full well that it was to my interest to do so. No doubt others did the same. Is it likely that I should grant the same privilege to B. or S.? We know that the public will have medicines of some description or other, and when they ask our opinion on a certain article we preserve a discreet silence or otherwise, according to the profit we obtain by the transaction. Human nature is human nature all the world over.

November 20.

TIMON. (68/20.)

SIR,—A humble student of the science of economics, I viewed with some astonishment the letters of Mr. Morgan W. James (*THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, October 26, and November 9). Mr. James entertains notions so greatly at variance with all known principles of commerce that in the interest of the trade of which you, Sir, are in all its branches so beneficently the guardian, and even in the interest of Mr. James's own enlightenment, something seems necessary to be said.

Some of Mr. James's predecessors in the regulation of trade have chanced upon a fact which does not seem to have overtaken his consciousness—namely, that whether in the affairs of a nation, or in the transactions of a parish, the tendency of our fallen nature is to buy in the cheapest market, disregarding the outraged feelings of even the most conscientious objectors; and that nothing will induce human beings in the bulk to depart from this selfish practice. And another little fact which Mr. James will in course of time learn, is that men and women as a community can be guided in any direction only by one bridle—self-interest; they have the strongest objections against being led in any other manner. Consequently, and notwithstanding even the noblest collection of impassioned postcards, the public, which neither knows nor cares anything about the squabbles of patent-medicine makers and patent-medicine sellers, will always find out where commodities—be they pills or pipe-clay, nostrums or nuts—are to be most cheaply obtained. It follows that in large towns, where cutters ply their trade, the only effect of the combination Mr. James advocates will be to divert the demand not merely for nostrums, but for all chemists' goods, still more systematically to the counters of the cutter, even though, as Mr. James remarks in that nervous English of which he is a master, "Each town must be a complete link—that is, every chemist must support, as one left out would spoil, so far as that particular town is concerned." Indeed, the pariah chemist, who "left out would spoil," would, in truth, be the only one left to divide with the drug-store man the favours of the public. On the other hand, in small places, where cutters have not yet nefariously arrived, Mr. James's organised scheme is even more obviously futile, since where there are no cutters there can be no cutting.

Whether the education and scientific training mentioned by Mr. James have had the effect he half dreads, and dwarfed (as he quaintly expresses it) his mind from thinking, or whether this effect has been produced by much brooding over the wrong done to his profession by the operation of a law of nature which he appears to attribute to original sin

on the part of some people really in no wise concerned with it, would be idle to inquire. But on one point Mr. James clearly needs to be set right by the administration of what is known in some circles (undwarfed by education) as the straight tip; and as he is not alone in the entertainment of his fallacy, perhaps the present may serve as an occasion for it to be pointed out. The fallacy I refer to is the notion that the manufacturers of advertised goods rely chiefly, or in any material degree, upon our assistance as retailers to promote their sale. There would be a very good case for demanding a considerable and assured profit if we did, in fact, make strenuous efforts to sell advertised goods. The fact, as the letters published every week in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* abundantly show, is quite the reverse. We all of us know that our effort in regard to such goods is to avoid selling them as much as we possibly can, and to push our own preparations in place of them when it is safe to do so, which (as Mr. James has the acuteness to see, but as "Living Profit" failed to understand) is not quite so often as some of us have been short-sighted enough to imagine. When the advertisements scornfully alluded to by Mr. James have brought a customer to our counter, it is rather poor policy to turn him from our doors; man doth not live by patent medicines alone, and it is a tendency of human nature to dislike being worried to buy something else than what it has been persuaded—whether by advertisement or otherwise—to ask for. The P.A.T.A., as your correspondent in a moment of enlightenment somewhat unkindly observes, has met with little success. Mr. Glyn-Jones was going, as Mr. James is going, to kill off the unprofitable proprietaries. It never seemed to occur to him that it is the cutter who ought to be killed off. Mr. Boot, I am credibly informed, goes quite safely and even luxuriously to bed o' nights, yet there is at least four times as much patent-medicine advertising in the newspapers of to-day as there was in the days before the P.A.T.A.; and there will be more still when Mr. James's scheme has followed it in failure.

Let me not be taken for an enemy of my kind. It is for Mr. James's good that I am lecturing him, in the hope of persuading him and others (including myself) to attend to business instead of wasting time in futile battle against the laws of nature. But I fail utterly to see how we are to be benefited, as a trade, by an ostrich-like policy of shirking the true facts and cultivating a ruinous megalomania, which in the end will only result in depriving us of what trade the cutter leaves us now.

I am, &amp;c.,

A CANDID FRIEND. (58/58)

## The Trouble of It.

SIR,—The whole trouble of the drug-trade lies in the fact that the chemist and druggist, as an individual carrying on a separate business, is not wanted; he is simply a parasite, and consequently can only live by sufferance and with difficulty. The medical man supplies the public with medicine in cases of sickness, and the grocer supplies all domestic remedies, &c. From an experience of over twenty years, I fully believe that not 10 per cent. of the chemists in business could live by their legitimate trade alone, and only manage to eke out an existence by taking up various side-lines, which are frequently more profitable than the drug-business. Within the last few years no fewer than four chemists' shops have been wiped out of existence—all within two minutes' walk of Clapham Junction station. The sooner youths and parents realise the true state of affairs in the drug-trade, the better for themselves. Instead of qualifying as a chemist, far better spend the time and money in qualifying as an auctioneer, surveyor, accountant, bank-clerk, or Civil servant, any one of which is far and away superior to the drug-trade, both as regards conditions and hours of work and remuneration. I know several chemists who have sons, but not one intends to bring them up to the drug-trade.

I am, yours faithfully,

PENTENS. (55/40.)

An *Englishman* sends a long letter on the German bottle-makers in the East-end of London. It is written on both sides of the paper (an unpardonable journalistic offence), and the writer gives neither his name nor address.



## Dispensing Notes.

A section for the elucidation of difficulties and interchange of views on dispensing-problems.

### "A Fractious Lotion."

(*C. & D.*, November 23, page 851.)

SIR,—By emulsifying the oil with gum acacia, dissolving the acid in the spirit, and adding to the emulsion, a fairly satisfactory lotion can be made. Yours faithfully,

GEORGE ROE.

### Quinine Precipitate.

SIR,—What is the cause of a precipitate forming, after a few hours, in the following?—

|                          |     |     |        |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| Liq. ferri perchlor. ... | ... | ... | 3iss.  |
| Liq. strychn. ...        | ... | ... | m30    |
| Quininæ hydrochlor. ...  | ... | ... | gr. 12 |
| Mag. sulph. ...          | ... | ... | 3iij.  |
| Glycerini ...            | ... | ... | 5iij.  |
| Aq. ad ...               | ... | ... | 5xij.  |

M.

Yours truly,

C. T. B. (31/10)

[We cannot obtain any deposit if dispensed as written; but if quinine sulphate be used and tap-water as a vehicle, after a few hours oxychloride of iron is deposited.]

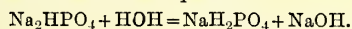
### A Useful Hint.

SIR,—The prescription below was presented a few days ago by a medical man, who emphasised the fact that it was the acid variety he wanted, and gave the chemical formula as  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4$ . I am sending this as it may be of use to those who might not read the prescription as such, especially considering it is not a salt much used in medicine:—

Sodii phosph. acid. ... 3ij.

3j. in a pint of water to be taken as a drink as desired.

This salt has been given for cases where the urine is alkaline and strong smelling; the latter is cured with urotropin, which has, however, a tendency to keep it alkaline. Mr. Harold L. Barnard reports such a case in the *Lancet* of November 9 last. He found, after a few days, the urine became acid and free from smell. He carefully added at the end of his paper that it was the  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4$  he used. The possibility of a dispenser concluding that the B.P. salt is intended would, perhaps, be due to the fact that it is chemically constituted as an acid, considering that only two of the three hydrogen atoms in the phosphoric acid are replaced by the sodium. Such an assumption in practice is wrong, seeing that sodium phosphate is described as an alkaline saline, due probably to a partial hydrolysis of the sodium salt as shown in the equation—



Yours truly,

WEST-END. (50/25)

## Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

65/9. *Pestle*.—An inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts may be required to give a written order for the articles which he purchases.

65/55. *Ireland*.—(1) An unqualified assistant who sells poisons, either in Great Britain or Ireland, is alone responsible for the consequences, so far as the Pharmacy Acts are concerned; but there may be conditions under which he might recover any expense incurred from his employer. (2) In Ireland apprenticeship with an unqualified person is not recognised, and the fact that after the period the unqualified person becomes qualified does not alter the case.

65/68. *Copyright*.—The chief difference between registration of a trade-mark and taking out a copyright is 20s. In the case of copyright of a label application is made and

registration is effected without inquiry on the part of Stationers' Hall. All that this registration does is to give the applicant a piece of evidence in the event of any proceedings being taken for infringement of the copyright. The Stationers' Hall is off Ludgate Hill, London, E.C., and the cost of registration is 5s. for each article.

59/52. *Tinctura*.—See above.

73/9. *T. G. Forshaw*.—Medical men can say what they like about not labelling poisonous medicines with their name and address, but that is the law. See the Pharmacy Act, 1868, Section 17.

## Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

46/48. *W. C. C.*—Sound-recorders.—According to patent 1644 (1878) the recorder of the Edison "phonograph" is of paper or other material coated with "paraffin or other hydrocarbons, waxes, gums, or lacs" used by itself or covered with metal foil and passed through rollers. In the "gramophone" (U.S. patent 372,786) the record is made on a lamp-black surface, and afterwards varnished. The recorder of the "graphophone" (patent 6,027, 1886) is composed of white beeswax 1 part, paraffin 2 parts, melted together and strained, if necessary, through cotton-wool. The coating, about  $\frac{1}{20}$  inch thick, is made by flowing the melted composition over a paper disc or foundation, and afterwards by preference turning the surface off flat on a lathe.

48/69. *G. & H.*—Analysis of Butter.—The adulteration of butter consists either in an excess of water, salt, or admixture of other animal or vegetable fats. The insoluble fatty acids vary from 85.56 to 89.90, and the soluble from 4.50 to 7.41 per cent. In ordinary animal fats the insoluble fatty acids vary from 95.56 to 96.20 per cent., and soluble acids are absent. The sp. gr. is an important factor in determining whether the butter is genuine, the range being for butter 0.911 to 0.913, whilst ordinary animal fats vary from 0.903 to 0.904. For the analytical details we must refer you to *Hehner and Angell on "Butter," 3s. 6d.* (Churchill), or *Allen's "Commercial Analysis."*

49/49. *Inquirer*.—The Discoloured Ivory-combs can be improved by prolonged immersion in warm hydrogen-peroxide solution. The combs are immersed in the solution in a covered earthenware jar, and the vessel is then placed in hot water. The process in the case of toothbrush-handles is often prolonged for hours.

45/55. *W. D.*—A formula for *Mist. Bismuth. Co.* was given in the *C. & D.*, March 23, page 470.

64/25. *J. E. J. (Kimberley)*.—(1) Liquid cochineal or aniline magenta may be used for heightening the colour of raspberry and strawberry syrup, cochineal for preference. (2) *Soldering Aluminium*.—The method invented by Dr. W. S. Bates, Chicago, is one of the more recent. A flux is first prepared by fusing copper chloride with one-third of its weight of an alkaline chloride—lithium chloride is by far the best. The flux is distributed along the part to be soldered and heated with a blowpipe or Bunsen burner. The flux melts and flows into and along the joint, and as the temperature reaches one slightly above the melting-point of the flux an intense reaction takes place and completes the operation. The soldering may be made heavier and stronger by distributing aluminium filings along the point with the flux.

63/32. *T. E. K.*—Horse-spice.—This contains powdered turmeric, powdered gentian, sodium chloride, and powdered liquorice; but as you give no particulars, and it does not seem to be out of the ordinary, our analysis has not been exhaustive.

50/5. *Wight*.—The analysis of the stoutness-cure might be interesting, but would require large quantities of material to work on.



48/35 *Follicle*.—(1) The hair-lotion you send is mainly aq. mellis, but we detect a small proportion of tinct. cantharidis. (2) Oil of Swallows was official in the first London Pharmacopœias. It was made from swallows, chamomiles, rue, plantain, the greater and the less, bay-leaves, pennyroyal, dill, hyssop, rosemary, sage, St. John's wort, boiled in oil and wine. A modern formula is—

Elder-leaves, fresh ... .. 1 lb.  
Olive oil ... .. 2 pints.

Boil till the leaves are crisp; press out the oil and let it settle.

(3) Oil of Yeases we do not know.

54/41. *Civitas*.—You do not say how the whooping-cough powder is used.

51/27. *A. M.*—Were your samples properly labelled, as we cannot recognise them amongst a quantity of unlabelled bottles and boxes?

50/6 (*Pepticus*), 60/59 (*Alpha*).—No particulars whatever are given with your samples, which is contrary to our rules.

64/30. *W. B. H.*—Nursery Hair-lotion Powder.—This powder, described as perfectly harmless and non-poisonous, has the following composition:—

|                  |     |     |     |     |                 |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| P. boracis       | ... | ... | ... | ... | } partes euales |
| P. quassia       | ... | ... | ... | ... |                 |
| P. cort. quillaæ | ... | ... | ... | ... |                 |

M.

Weigh into  $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. packets, direct one to be mixed with half a teacupful of boiling water, and the resulting liquor used as a nursery hair-lotion as soon as it is cool enough.

66/49. *H. J. I.*—Whilst we are quite willing to be of service to you, we cannot do impossibilities, even though it means a "big thing" to you. One pill is quite inadequate for an analysis.

20/01. *Meersbrook*.—Cheap Relish like your sample:—

|                       |     |     |     |     |          |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Pimento               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3j.      |
| Nutmegs               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3j.      |
| Black pepper          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3j.      |
| Capsicums             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3ss.     |
| Treacle               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3viij.   |
| Tincture of asafetida | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3j.      |
| Mushroom-ketchup      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0j.      |
| Vinegar to make       | ... | ... | ... | ... | Cong. j. |

Bruise the spices and boil with the vinegar. When cold strain on to the other ingredients and mix well.

60/52. *Incog*.—Surfeit Water.—This is now liq. ammon. acet., but was formerly a distillate of herbs. In some parts of England the preparation used to be made as follows:—

|                   |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Ol. menth. virid. | ... | ... | ... | mij. |
| Ol. carui         | ... | ... | ... | mij. |
| S.V.R.            | ... | ... | ... | 3iv. |
| Aq. destill.      | ... | ... | ... | 3iv. |
| Syr. simplicis    | ... | ... | ... | 3ij. |

57/35. *Mizpah*.—Hair-restoring Pomade.—The formula given in the *C. & D.*, September 21, 1901, page 513, is for a preparation said to restore the colour of the hair.

60/27. *Ammonia*.—The formula for lavender toilet and household ammonia was given as recently as October 26, page 704.

49/31. *Inquirer*.—Cultivating Medicinal Plants.—We gave an outline of the methods of doing this in the *C. & D.* for April 20, 1901, page 664. The chief requirement, however, is experience, and even then disappointments are frequent. There is no book on drug-growing in English.

43/74. *J. H. N.*—Sloe Gin is made by filling bottles with sloes, pouring gin over them, and letting it stand for three months before use.

59/28. *G. W. & Co.*—The interpretation of Gould's hop-compound prescription was last given in the *C. & D.*, November 24, 1900, page 832, and is also in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 503.

## Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

69/60. Maker of cyanogen bromide.

73/10. Makers of David Hesse & Sons' corn-plasters.

70/71. Makers or proprietors of Falconer's Golden Compound.

64/18. Address of a rhubarb-trimmer, root-cutter, &c., who works at home.

72/33. Maker or supplier of caoutchoucine, used for denaturing spirit for export to India.

74/43. Where can "aminol," formerly supplied by the Amines Syndicate (Limited), 101 Leadenhall Street, E.C., be obtained?

## Coming Events.

Notices of forthcoming meetings are inserted in this section free of charge. Secretaries should send such notices to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., so that they may be received not later than Wednesday of the week of publication; if later, by telegram to "Chemicus London."

### Monday, December 2.

*Society of Chemical Industry* (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. Messrs. H. E. Burgess and J. F. Child on "The Lemon-Oil Industry"; Mr. J. W. Hinchley on "The Separation of Materials of Different Specific Gravities."

### Tuesday, December 3.

*Bradford and District Chemists' Association*. Mr. B. Rogers will give a lecture on "English Cathedrals and Churches."

### Wednesday, December 4.

*Society of Arts*, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 P.M. Mr. H. Stone on "The Identification of Wood, and its Application to Scientific and Commercial Purposes."

*Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain*, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 11 A.M. Council-meeting.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland*, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M. Council-meeting.

*Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association*, Mather's Hotel, Dundee, at 4.30 P.M. Discussion on the apprenticeship difficulty and sale of poisons. Tea will be served at 4 o'clock.

### Thursday, December 5.

*Chemical Society*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. "Influence of Substitution on the Formation of Diazoamines and Amino-azo-compounds," by Mr. G. T. Morgan; "The Determination of Available Plant-food in Soils by the Use of Dilute Solvents," by Mr. A. D. Hall and Mr. F. J. Plymen; "Some New Derivatives of Gallic Acid," by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. F. Shedden.

*North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association*, at 8 P.M. Smoking-concert at Swift's Dining-rooms, Railway Road, Blackburn. Admission free. A supper at a nominal sum will be provided for those wishing it, during the interval.

*Chemists' Assistants' Association*, at 8.15 P.M. Annual reunion in the Council-chamber, Holborn Restaurant, W.C. Mr. J. C. Umney in the chair.

*Liverpool Chemists' Association*, Thompson-Yates Bacteriological Laboratory, University College, at 7 P.M. Professor C. T. Sherrington will give an illustrated lecture on "Physiological Experiment in Relation to Pharmacology."

*Röntgen Society*, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. Mr. J. H. Edwards on "Bullets and their Billets."

THE Chemists' Ball is arranged to take place at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole, on Wednesday, January 15, 1902. Mr. E. W. Hill, 160 Earl's Court Road, S.W., is the Hon. Secretary of the committee.

THE next evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is to be held at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on December 10. Professor Greenish and Mr. Upsher Smith will make communications on "Tincture of Nux Vomica" and "The Official Test for Myrrh," and Mr. E. M. Holmes notes on "Pure Otto of Rose" and "The Official Test for Strophanthus Kombe."

PENNY SCIENCE.—The following lectures will be given at the Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo Road, S.E., on Tuesdays during December, at 8.30 P.M.: December 3, Professor R. A. Gregory on "A Journey to the Sun, Moon, and Stars"; December 10, Mr. P. W. Ames, F.S.A., on "Wonders of the Sky"; December 17, Professor H. Miers on "A Visit to Klondyke"; December 31, Mr. R. Kearton, F.L.S., on "Peeps into Nature's Secrets."



## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. : November 28.

**B**USINESS in drugs and chemicals has again been extremely quiet during the week. Quinine has a firmer tendency in second-hands, but there are still few sellers. An improvement is looked for should the shipments of bark for November prove moderate. Cod-liver oil is dearer, and the demand has improved. Calabar beans have again advanced owing to continued scarcity. Higher prices are also asked for fenugreek-seed owing to a reported failure of the crop. There are rumours of an advance in santolin, and sellers in second-hand ask makers' prices. Cocaine keeps very firm. Shellac has fluctuated considerably, but closes lower since our last report. American spermaceti is now offered at very low prices. In chemicals there has been a decline in chlorate of potash, the value of which is now extremely low; foreign competition is said to be the cause of it. Tartaric acid is in fair request, but foreign is again easier. Potashes are scarce and dearer. Crude camphor is again a feature of interest, inasmuch as it is rumoured that the Japanese Government is to assume control of all camphor manufactured in Japan from January 1, 1902. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

| Higher          | Firmer        | Easier         | Lower        |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Calabar beans   | Balsam Peru   | Acid, tartaric | Cinnamon     |
| Canary-seed     | Oil, bergamot | Ginger,        | (ord. qual.) |
| Cinnamon (fine) | Oil, orange   | Cochin         | Shellac      |
| Fenugreek-seed  | Pepper, black | Ginger,        | Spermaceti   |
| Oil, cod liver  | Quinine (sec. | Jamaica        |              |
| Pepper, white   | hands)        | Potash chlor-  |              |
| Pimento         |               | ate            |              |
| Potashes        |               |                |              |

### Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from November 21 to 27, inclusive:—Aniseed (@ Riga) 51 bls., (Spanish) 20; arrowroot (St. V.), 749; balsams (@ Savanilla), 16 cs.; bismuth 180, (@ Antofagasta) 94; borax, 5,994; canary-seed, 2,165; cardamoms, 9; castor oil (E.I.) 133 cks., (Ital.) 10; cinchona (Ceylon) 139, (@ Amsterdam) 58, (@ Calicut) 165, (@ Mollendo) 419, (@ Valparaiso) 141 bales; citronella oil (Ceylon) 83; cocaine, crude (@ Callao), 6 cs.; cod-liver oil (@ Aalesund) 311, (@ Bergen) 160; colocynth (@ Almeria), 5 cs.; coriander-seed, 225; essential oils (@ Messina), 23; ginger (@ Hong-Kong) 500 cases, (@ Bombay) 92; gum arabic (@ Trieste) 60 bls. 18 cs., (@ Havre) 9; gum sandarac, 16; honey (@ N.Y.) 50, (Chil.) 55, (Jam.) 27; iodine, 514 kegs; jaborandi (*in tr.*), 3; kola (W.I.), 2; lemon juice, 15 pipes; lime-juice (@ Dominica), 53 brls. 61 hds. 137 puns., (@ Jamaica) 18 puns.; lime oil (W.I.), 43 pkgs.; nux vomica, 351; olibanum, 70; opium (@ Constantinople), 25; orris (Ital.), 13 bls.; pimento (@ Jamaica), 2,020 bgs.; potash chlorate (Swed.) 70 kegs, (@ Roueo) 90 brls; quicksilver (Span.), 15; roots (@ Panama), 16 bgs.; rose oil (E.I.), 4 pots; rhubarb (@ Shanghai), 29; tamarinds (at St. Kitts) 25 brls., (@ Madras) 85; saffron, 4; senna (@ Alexandria) 8, (@ Bombay) 335; sulphur (@ Catania) 150 brls. 680 bgs. 120 cks.; turmeric (@ Madras), 35; vanilla, 146 cs.; wax, bees' (Morocco) 18, (W.C.A.) 15; wax, Japanese, 23.

## Heavy Chemicals.

There is little of change as regards the general condition of the heavy-chemical market either in respect to the volume of business passing or ruling values to be reported. A quietly steady tone, both on home and export account, with prices mostly unchanged, about represents the position.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—Bleaching powder is firm with fair business. Caustic soda rather quiet, but unchanged in price. Ammonia alkali very steady and in continued brisk request. In prussiates and chlorates there is not very much doing. Salteake steady.

**BARIUM-PRODUCTS** easily maintain a strong position, and there is little likelihood of any appreciable decline in values. The mineral carbonate of barytes is far from being in abundant supply, and this naturally reacts on the position of the manufactured products. Prices vary according to strength, quantity, and delivery. Blanc-fixe, pure precipitated sulphate of barium in paste form, in heavy request and scarce. Price is unchanged at 7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s. per ton in usual casks. Mineral sulphate of barytes, ground, in steady demand, at figures varying from 40s. to 100s. per ton, in accordance with quality, quantity, and package. Chloride of barium, best ordinary refined crystals, 7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s. per ton in usual casks, and 7l. to 7l. 10s. per ton in bags. Nitrate of baryta, crystals and powdered, firmer, and likely to advance; present rates, 16l. 10s. to 17l. 10s. per ton, free on rails in casks. Hydrate of baryta, purest crystals, in fair demand at 14l. to 14l. 10s. per ton in 6-7 cwt. casks. Sulphide of barium, crude calcined, 7c-75 per cent., unchanged at 5l. 10s. to 6l. per ton in 9-10 cwt. casks.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA** is in steady demand, and late firm tone with advancing tendency is fully maintained. Nearest figures are Beckton prompt, 11l.; Beckton January-April, 11l. 5s.; Beckton terms, 10l. 16s. 3d. to 10l. 17s. 6d.; London, 10l. 18s. 9d. to 11l.; Leith, 11l.; and Hull, 10l. 17s. 6d. to 10l. 18s. 9d. per ton.

## Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, November 27.

**CASTOR OIL.**—Good seconds Calcutta has slightly recovered from the depression of last week, the quay parcels having been cleared off at 3½d. per lb., and 3½d. in store is the quotation to-day. First-pressure French is easier, and sales have been effected in quantity at 2½d. Better prices are looked for in this article. Second-pressure French is procurable at 2½d. per lb.

**BEE-SWAX (CHILIAN).**—One parcel of 40 sacks has found buyers at 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l. 5s. per cwt., according to quality.

**AFRICAN GINGER.**—Forty-five shillings per cwt. is now asked for the small remaining stocks on the spot, although 40s. per cwt. would be taken for some to arrive.

**GRAINS OF PARADISE.**—For some to arrive this week 70s. is asked, and one importer talks of 80s. per cwt. being now the value.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER** is hardening considerably; 22l. to 22l. 10s. per ton is now quoted, and higher prices are asked for forward delivery.

**CANARY-SEED.**—The upward movement recorded last week has been fully maintained, and 37s. per qr. is now asked for good bright Turkish, with little or no business passing at the price.

**QUILLATA-BARK.**—Some business is doing in this article at 12l. 17s. 6d. to 13l. per ton, but 170 bales were offered at auction without eliciting any bids.

**HONEY (CALIFORNIAN).**—Two hundred cases of the new-crop set offered at auction, but no bids were forthcoming in the neighbourhood of the importers' limit, which was 3½s. per cwt. Chilean remains unchanged at recent values, with little or no business passing at the moment.

**ACACIA-SORTS.**—Although the volume of business during the week has not been large, the transactions which have taken place show the maintenance of full prices—25 serons soft Soudan sorts have been sold at 42s. 6d. per cwt.; 2 serons picked white gum at 75s.; and 5 serons soft Soudan at 40s.

**LINSEED OIL.**—Liverpool-make in export-casks has been reduced 3d. per cwt., being now quoted 33s. to 33s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality.

## German Drug Market.

Hamburg, November 26.

Our drug-market does not show much change since last week, business in general being very quiet.

**ANTIMONY** is firmer, at 26½m. to 27m. per 100 kilos. for spot and forward delivery.

**CAMPOR (REFINED)** is quiet, with second-hand sellers asking 430m. per 100 kilos.

**COCA-LEAVES** are tending firmer, Bolivian being held at 285m. per 100 kilos.

**CITRIC-ACID** is very firm and dearer, at 240m. per 100 kilos. for spot and forward delivery.

**ERGOT** remains firm and scarce, with Spanish at 370m., and Russian at 355m. per 100 kilos.



FENUGREEK-SEED is firmer to-day on the spot, at 16½m., and forward delivery 15m., per 100 kilos.

LYCOPODIUM is firm, at 440m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is also firm, at 31m. for spot, and 29m. per kilo., for forward delivery,

QUININE is quiet, at 39m. per kilo.

SANTONIN is firm, and second-hand holders are practically sold out.

SENEGA is a little cheaper, at 490m. per 100 kilos.

OIL OF TURPENTINE is firmer, owing to the reported loss of a second vessel, the *Camelia*, with about 2,000 barrels; spot is 56½m. per 100 kilos.

STAR-ANISE is firmer, at 135m. per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPANESE) is quoted 60m. for spot and 61m. for delivery.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is very slow of sale, first-pressing in barrels being quoted 57m., spot and December 55½m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver firm, at 68m. per barrel for non-congealing oil. Linseed is dull and lower, and cotton-seed is firmer.

OILS (Essential): Peppermint is firmer, with HGH at 8½m. per lb. spot. Japanese at 8½m. and 7½m. per kilo. for forward delivery. Cassia is quiet, and Star-anise is steady, at 11½m. per kilo.

### American Drug Market.

*New York, November 19.*

The spot market has a steady undertone, and business in general is of satisfactory volume.

ANGOSTURA-BARK.—The market is almost bare, and holders have advanced prices to 24c. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Only small quantities are available at the old range of 32c. to 34c. per lb. Supplies are not heavy, and for large quantities 33c. is asked.

GUAIACUM is higher, and from 22c. to 30c. per lb. is asked, according to quality.

IRECAC.—Rio is easier at \$2.65. Cartagena is in good demand at \$1.60 per lb.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT.—Considerable sales are reported of both bulk and bottled goods. For bulk \$1.75 is an inside figure, and \$1.80 generally asked. It is doubtful if HGH can be secured below \$2.

OPIUM.—Case lots are obtainable at \$3, and even this figure can be shaded. The market is dull.

SENEGA is firm on the spot at 55c. to 60c. per lb.

WILD-CHERRY BARK.—Fine quality is out of the market, and only inferior grades are offering at 6c. to 7c.

### Japanese Drug and Chemical Markets.

*Yokohama, November 1.*

Since my last report the drug and chemical trade has continued fairly brisk, although the demand for general articles has somewhat decreased.

In exports, menthol continues very scarce, there being no spot sellers. Makers are busily engaged in executing their export orders, and this week's shipments amount to some 60 cases. Holders now ask yen 7.80 to yen 8 per catty for December delivery. Oil of peppermint remains firm at unchanged quotations. Crude iodine is quoted yen 3.25 to yen 3.35 per lb., according to quantity and quality. Potassium iodide is unchanged, with a weaker tendency, this being due to want of money on the part of holders. Resublimed iodine and iodoform are unchanged at last quotations. Refined camphor in tablets is weak, and yen 1 per lb. will buy large quantities. Dry ginger is very scarce, and practically unobtainable. There is only one holder, and he has 100 piculs, for which he wants the extreme figure of yen 18 per picul. Next season's crop is estimated by experienced persons at about 25,000 piculs, and the cost of the new will probably be about yen 10 or so per picul at the producing districts. Aniseed is quiet, and yen 11 will buy.

Among imported articles, carbolic acid is in demand at 45 sen per lb., in drums, owing to light supply. Price, however, is expected to drop, when the new cheap cargoes arrive. Acetanilide is low, at 43 sen per lb. Tannic acid (P.J.) is firm, at yen 1.15 per lb. Bismuth subnitrate is somewhat weak, at yen 3.20 per lb., in anticipation of arrivals bought at less money. Cocaine is unchanged. Condurango is held at 28 to 30 sen per lb. Ergot is quoted at yen 1.50 per lb., with a lower tendency. Rio ipeacacuanha is held at yen 8.50 per lb., with a small demand. Santonin is firmer, at yen 9 to yen 9.20 per lb. Senega is very firm, owing to dearer advices from primary sources, and holders now ask yen 1.30 to yen 1.40 per lb., in bales. Saffron is firmly held, at yen 18 per catty for P.J. quality. Sugar of milk is higher in face of light stock, and present quotation is yen 22 per cwt. Glycerin was very dear a couple of weeks ago, but price has since been lowered, and holders now quote 35 sen per lb. Quinine is somewhat weak, at 60 sen per oz., and this figure can be cut by a few sens. Thymol has declined, on account of arrivals, and present price is yen 6.50 per lb., with a slow sale.

### Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, November 28.—Agar-agar, Carnauba wax, and antimony are all firmer. Lycopodium is quoted 440m., and refined camphor 430m. per 100 kilos.

NEW YORK, November 28.—Business is fair. Quinine is stronger, at 27c. per oz. Cartagena ipecac. is easier, at \$1.50, and Rio is quoted \$2.60 per lb. Nuxvomica is scarce, at 3c. per lb. Balsam Peru is firmer, at \$1.35 per lb. Oil of peppermint is strong, at \$1.80 in bulk. Valerian root is weak, at 5c. per lb., and morphine has advanced 20c. per oz.

ACID, TARTARIC, is in fair demand at 11½d. per lb. for English-made crystals, or powder, on the spot, but foreign is easier at 10½d.

ANGELICA-ROOT.—Thuringian of the new crop is quoted 28s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

ARROWROOT.—Bermuda, at auction, partly sold at 1s 5d. per lb. St. Vincent's was all bought in at 1¼d. to 3½d. per lb. for good to fine.

BALSAM PERU is very firm, in view of the disturbances in Colombia; 6s. 6d. is wanted for good thick.

BUCHU.—Further sales of round green leaf have been made *ex* the auctions at 10½d. per lb.

CALABAR BEANS remain scarce and wanted. A retail sale has been made at 1s. 6d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—It is rumoured that the Japanese authorities have now perfected the scheme to control the production of camphor manufactured in Japan outside of Formosa, and that the monopoly is to be taken over by the Government as from January 1, 1902. The quotation for crude Formosan is 165s., c.i.f. In second-hands, Japanese crude remains firm, with sellers at 165s. to 166s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

CANARY-SEED.—Turkish and ordinary Barbary are again dearer, 36s. 6d. per qr. being now the quotation; but business is somewhat curtailed, owing to the rise in price. This article has been very excited in Constantinople, and, as previously indicated, a considerable advance has taken place. Price to-day is 9s. 8d. per cwt., with few sellers, and with every 500 bags sold a further rise takes place.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held in Amsterdam on December 12 will consist of 7,551 bales and 275 cases, weighing 701,880 kilos, of Java bark. A supplementary catalogue will be published.

CINNAMON.—The usual quarterly sales took place last Monday. There was keen competition for fine qualities, and 2d. per lb. advance on the prices obtained in August was paid. The demand for ordinary descriptions, of which the bulk of the offerings consisted, was, however, slow, and a reduction of ½d. per lb. had to be accepted, and even then the catalogues were not quite cleared. The following are the prices realised:—

| —           | Fine Superior |         | Good  |        | Ordinary |         |
|-------------|---------------|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|
|             | s. d.         | s. d.   | s. d. | s. d.  | s. d.    | s. d.   |
| Firsts ...  | 1 5           | to 1 8  | 0 11½ | to 1 2 | 0 9½     | to 0 11 |
| Seconds ... | 1 4           | " 1 6   | 0 10½ | " 0 11 | 0 9      | " 0 10½ |
| Thirds ...  | 1 2           | " 1 5   | 0 9½  | " 0 10 | 0 9      | " 0 9½  |
| Fourths ... | 0 10          | " 0 10½ | 0 9   | " 0 9½ | 0 8      | " 0 9   |

Pieces, quillings, cuttings, featherings, &c., sold at 7d. to 9d. per lb., and bold chips at 3¼d. to 3½d. per lb. Ordinary chips were bought in at 3d. per lb.

ERGOT.—There has been a little business at 1s. 9d. spot for good sound Spanish. Hamburg reports a scarce market, but quotes both Spanish and Russian at 1s. 6½d., c.i.f.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—It is reported that the crop is a failure in Morocco, and that prices have been advanced.

GALLS.—Chinese have been sold on the spot at 57s. 6d. per cwt., and for arrival sellers continue to quote 53s., c.i.f.

GAMBIER.—Sales of about 200 bags cubes are reported at 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.



GOA POWDER is quoted 1s. 6½d. per lb., c.i.f.

GUM ARABIC.—Ordinary to good Ghatti has changed hands at from 11s. 6d. to 12s., and fair sifted Aden kind olibanum scented at 35s. per cwt.

IODINE.—The s.s. *Orissa* from W.C.S. America has brought 514 kegs to Liverpool.

ISINGLASS.—At auction on Tuesday 540 packages were offered, of which about 350 sold, there being a good demand. Brazil was all sold at easier rates to an advance of 1d. on good lump. East Indian advanced 1d. to 3d. Saigon sold well at irregular but higher prices, and Penang went steadily.

JUNIPER-BERRIES.—Firm. A spot holder asks 10s. 6d. per cwt. for new crop, and from the Continent 9s. 6d., c.i.f., is quoted.

LOBELIA.—Advices from New York report a stronger position at from 3¼d. to 4d. per lb., c.i.f., very little being offered from the producing districts.

LYCOPodium is quoted 2s. 0½d. per lb., c.i.f.

MARSHMALLOW ROOT.—New crop is quoted 50s. per cwt. c.i.f. for peeled.

MASTICH.—New crop is plentiful in Trieste this year, the output as regards quantity being satisfactory; 135s. to 137s. 6d. per cwt., c. and f. is quoted, the lower figure being for 5 to 10 case lots.

MENTHOL shows no change at 14s. 9d., spot, for Kobayashi.

MUSK.—Pile I, thin-skin blue is quoted 75s. per oz., and Pile III. is practically unobtainable. In Cabardine musk business has been done at 14s. per oz.

OIL, ANISE STAR.—A little is obtainable at 4s. 11d. per lb., spot.

OIL, BERGAMOT.—December-January delivery is quoted 7s. 6d. per lb. by two agents.

OIL, CASTOR.—The market for Calcutta seconds is quiet, with small sales at 3¼d. per lb. A report from Calcutta, dated November 7, states that the export demand continues quiet, and small parcels for delivery during the present month are selling at a material decline.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The market here is very firm, at from 68s. 6d. to 70s. per barrel, c.i.f., according to brand, and present indications would seem to favour improved prices as the winter season approaches. A good business is reported this week. The Bergen cod-liver oil market is quiet but firm. Holders of best non-congealing Lofoten oil still ask 64s. per barrel, f.o.b., but only small transactions are reported. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 12,322 barrels, against 9,248 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—For good brands 1s. 3d. per lb. is quoted.

OIL, JUNIPER.—Foreign is quoted 3s. 6d. per lb. for double rectified.

OIL, LEMON.—It is stated that prices may improve, owing to stormy weather in Sicily.

OIL, OLIVE.—The olive harvest in Andalusia, which begins about the middle of December, promises well this year both as regards quality and quantity, and is expected to excel that of previous years. The best olives are grown in the districts of Martos, Jaen, Porcuna, Alcandele, Fuesenta, &c. There has been hail lately in the Cordova district, which has caused some damage, but not to any considerable extent.

OIL, ORANGE, is firmer at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American HGH is still obtainable at 9s. per lb. spot; although in one instance 9s. 3d. is asked. Japanese dementholised has sold at 3s. 9d., spot; the c.i.f. quotation is 3s. 6d.

OLIBANUM is very scarce in Trieste, and no fresh supplies are expected until January or February.

OPIMUM is slow of sale. In fine Persian a little business has been done at 10s. 6d. per lb., spot. Good "druggists," is quoted 9s. to 9s. 3d. per lb.

SMYRNA, November 15.—We have had a very active week on

this market again, the sales amounting to 107 cases, 80 of which (new current tale quale) were for the U.S.A., eight (Dutch grades) for the Dutch East Indian Government, and the remainder for England and the Continent. The sales were as follows:—Eighty-five cases current tale quale at the parity of 8s. 1d. to 8s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.; 10 cases Yerli at 10s. 2d.; 8 cases inspected Karahissar at 8s. 8d. The arrivals amount to 2,709 cases, against 3,390 cases at the same time last year. The weather continues very favourable for the sowings.

CONSTANTINOPLE, November 23.—Notwithstanding the decline in Smyrna this market keeps quiet. It would be very difficult to buy at under 7s. 9d. per lb., and even at this figure we are doubtful if sellers could be found. The decline in Smyrna appears to be rather overdone, and beyond the heavy stocks in that town there is nothing in the general position to warrant such low prices. The week's sales amount to 8 cases "druggists'" at 7s. 9d. to 8s. per lb.

PODOPHYLLUM-ROOT.—Business has been done at 24s. per cwt. on the spot. From New York 25s., c.i.f. is quoted, it being stated that very little root has been dug this year owing to the low prices ruling in former years.

POTASH CHLORATE.—Competition is becoming still keener in this article, and prices are easier at from 3¼d. to 3½d. per lb. net for crystals on the spot, and 3¼d. to 3½d. for powder. A French maker is offering at 2½d. per lb. net, c.i.f., New York.

POTASH CYANIDE.—There is a fair export demand for South Africa, which will probably increase as the mines are being gradually reopened. Mining strengths in 10-ton lots are quoted 10d. per lb.

POTASHES are dearer, 25s. 6d. per cwt. being wanted for firsts; seconds are unobtainable, and 40s. for pearl.

QUININE.—Last week the market closed quiet with small sales of December delivery at 1s. 1¼d., and March at 1s. 1½d. per oz., but this week a slightly firmer feeling has been apparent with few sellers, the general desire being to wait the announcement of the bark shipments from Java for the month. If these should prove moderate, as is expected, it is quite possible values will improve. May delivery has sold in small quantities at 1s. 2d. Market closes firm.

The exports of "quinine, quinine-preparations, &c.," from Germany during the eight months ended August amounted to:—

|            | 1901    | 1900    | 1899    |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Kilos. ... | 136,900 | 120,800 | 150,900 |

ROSE-LEAVES are becoming scarce, and for good French 2s. 9d. per lb. is asked, and 3s. 3d. for Dutch.

SAFFRON.—Advices from Valencia report a firmer market in Spain, although prices are unaltered, with more buyers than sellers. Here 23s. 6d. to 26s. 6d. net is quoted for Valencia, according to quality. The exports from Spain for the eight months ended August amounted to:—

|             | 1901      | 1900      | 1899      |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Kilos. ...  | 52,086    | 46,019    | 33,116    |
| Pesetas ... | 5,209,000 | 4,602,000 | 3,312,000 |

SANTONIN.—It is reported that manufacturers of santonin contemplate a further advance by 3m. per kilo. Hamburg is endeavouring to purchase second-hand parcels on this market, but there is nothing on offer below makers' prices, which are from 16s. 9d. to 18s., according to quantity.

SERPENTARY is quoted 1s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f.

SHELLAC.—The Calcutta price of TN, which closed unchanged last week at 75r., dropped to 71r. on Monday, and on Wednesday it declined still further to 67r. The speculative market has in consequence fluctuated considerably, showing first a decline then an advance, but closing lower on balance. Altogether a large business has been done, comprising December at 130s to 13s., January at from 132s. 6d. down to 125s., March 134s. to 129s., and May 134s. 6d. to 130s. On the spot little TN is offered, and few sales have occurred, the value of fair being about 126s. To-day January has sold at 127s. and March 128s. 6d.

SPERMACELE.—Refined is again lower, at 11½d. per lb., c.i.f., for at least 10-case lots. A parcel of 22 cases Chilian refined was sold in Liverpool last week at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. per lb.

SPICES.—There has been a strong demand for *White pepper*, and prices are considerably dearer; Singapore has been sold at 9½d. per lb. on the spot, and at 9d. for January-March shipment; Penang on the spot at 9d., and January-March steamer at 9½d. per lb. Black pepper,



although quiet, has a firmer tendency. At auction on Wednesday greyish Aleppy was bought in at  $6\frac{1}{2}d$  per lb. Singapore is quoted  $6\frac{1}{2}d$  on the spot, and  $6\frac{1}{2}d$  for January-March shipment. *Cochin Ginger* is rather slow, and a parcel of brownish washed rough was sold at auction at 45s. to 46s. per cwt., being easier. Fair white washed rough was bought in at 52s. to 53s., and bold cut at 100s. per cwt. One lot of Jamaica sold at 46s. per cwt. for dull washed, being lower. Rough Nicaragua sold at 40s. per cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* have fluctuated; after declining to  $4\frac{1}{2}d$  per lb. for March-May delivery the market recovered on Wednesday to  $4\frac{5}{8}d$ . *Clove-stems* were bought in at  $2d$  per lb. Zanzibar *Chillies* were bought in at 36s. per cwt. for ordinary stalky. *Pimento* is dearer; common and mixed sold at  $3\frac{1}{2}d$  to  $3\frac{3}{4}d$ , and ordinary to good at  $3\frac{1}{2}d$  per lb. *Mace* partly sold at 1s.  $3d$  per lb. for good pickings. *Cassia-lignea* was bought in at 52s. per cwt. for old import.

**STICKLAC.**—Good Saigon is quoted 52s.  $6d$ ., but no Siam is offered on the spot.

**STROPHANTHUS**—For part of the parcel offered in auction last week a bid of 4s. is to be submitted.

**SULPHUR.**—The stocks in Sicily at the end of October amounted to 285 877 tonnes of 13 Sicil. cantars, against 227 721 at the corresponding period of 1900.

**TONKA BEANS.**—Frosted Angostura are quoted 2s.  $9d$ ., and second quality at 1s.  $10d$  per lb., c.i.f.

**TURMERIC.**—Cochin is steady at 17s.  $6d$ . to 18s. per cwt. for finger, and 12s. to 12s.  $6d$  for split bulbs. Madras has sold in small lots at 23s.  $6d$ . to 24s. for good bright, and Bengal at 17s.  $6d$ ., spot; for arrival there are sellers at 14s.  $3d$ ., c.i.f.

**VALERIAN.**—Belgian is now very cheap, and can be had at 18s. per cwt., c.i.f. On the spot one holder asks 19s.

**VANILLA.**—A Seychelles correspondent writes us, under date of November 7, that the bulk of the vanilla-crop was being shipped that week per the mail steamer, s.s. *Melbourne*. Altogether she carries 21,267 kilos., 12 386 kilos. of which is for Marseilles and 8 881 kilos. for London. It is expected that the total output of vanilla from Seychelles for 1901 will equal 70,000 kilos. The prospects for next year are by no means good, and it is estimated that the exports during 1902 will not exceed 40,000 kilos. However, a great deal depends on the weather during the next three or four weeks. The exports from Tahiti during 1900 amounted to 162 636 lbs. (32,132 $\frac{1}{2}$ ), against 130,113 lbs. (33,701 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) in 1899, and 92,137 lbs. (20,468 $\frac{1}{2}$ ), in 1898. The exports from Mauritius during 1900 amounted to 4,552 kilos. (169,821 $\frac{1}{2}$ ), against 3,709 kilos. (133,946 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) in 1899, an increase in production and in value over 1899 of 743 kilos. and 25,875 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. respectively. Of the above quantity 4,417 kilos. were shipped to the United Kingdom, against 3,237 kilos. in 1899, while to France there was a falling-off of 353 kilos. in 1900.

**WAX, CARNAUBA.**—Valnes are the turn easier in Liverpool, business having been done in grey Pernambuco at 54s. for 43 bags, with 25 bags Maranhão and Ceara at 55s. per cwt. A few bags of low yellow have sold at 63s.

### Cartagena Ipecac.

Since the decision of the United States Treasury Department admitting Cartagena ipecac. if of proper alkaloidal content, there has been a marked falling-off in the demand for the Rio variety in America. Manufacturers apparently are using the Cartagena root for manufacturing purposes.

### The Futility of Monopolies.

German chemical circles are just now excited over the so-called Kali Krieg, or potash war. The important deposits of potash salts in the Stassfurt district annually yield nearly two millions of tons in the shape of kainit, sulphate, chlorate, and other derivatives, and the different mines have for many years been controlled by a powerful syndicate, which, by strictly regulating the output, has succeeded in securing handsome profits for its members. All newcomers have hitherto been roped into the combine, but the Kaiseroda Mine recently refused to accept the quota offered to it, whereupon the syndicate boldly announced reductions of from 25 to 40 per cent. in selling prices, with a view to freezing out the recalcitrant. The latter is now said to have given in, but there are three other concerns threatening to go "on their own," and the outcome of the game of bluff is awaited with interest in the Fatherland.

### The Manufacture of Oil of Rhodium in French Guiana.

According to *La Quinzaine Coloniale*:—"This oil is distilled in three small factories—two at Cayenne, and one at Sinnamary. These factories exported, in 1900, essential oil to the value of 52,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., against 19,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. in 1898 and 1899. Besides this, 243 tons of rosewood (valued at 19,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l.) were shipped to France. This industry is capable of considerable development, and would appear to belong to those which should attract capital from France. Rosewood is found everywhere in the interior of the colony, and it can easily be transported in small vessels to the factories situated on the mouth of the rivers. One ton of rosewood yields about 10 kilos. of essential oil; the price of the wood is about 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per ton, and that of the oil about 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per kilo. The product obtained from 1 ton of the crude material has, therefore, a value of about 280 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. Fuel of great caloric value is obtainable in unlimited quantity, and there is no difficulty in securing in the villages free grants of land near the rivers for the erection of factories. Sinnamary, Montsinery, and Tonnégrande, situated on deep rivers in districts where rosewood is abundant, are said to be excellent situations for establishing this industry."

### Californian Honey.

A report from San Francisco, dated October 2, and published in the *N.Y. Commercial*, states that this year, in spite of the wild reports about the great crop, it was almost impossible to get car loads of comb-honey together. A few car-loads went East, but nowhere near the demand was supplied, and the good price that comb-honey will bring will cause many bee men to arrange their apiaries for the production of comb-honey next year. Extracted honey is so much easier to produce that few bee-keepers go in for comb-honey. False reports of the California crop, it is said, have always lowered the price of California honey to half what it would bring if marketed by one seller instead of by hundreds of small ones. The Honey-producers' Association is to control 90 per cent. of next year's crop, buying all outside lots and compelling a fair price, while setting a standard for grade and quality.

### American Linseed Company.

The affairs of the American Linseed Oil Company continue to agitate oil circles, for the present advanced price of this product is largely dependent upon the attitude of that company. Mr. Guy G. Major is now the general manager of the concern in place of Vice-President Bowers. Mr. Major was formerly President of the company. Three months ago it was decided to consolidate with the Union Lead and Oil Companies, but this plan was frustrated by the fact that John D. Rockefeller owned the controlling interest. For a few weeks after the accession of the Rockefeller interests Mr. Major continued in charge. During this period the policy of the American company was "hullish," and both seed and oil were purchased in vast quantities. The price of oil was then 80c., and the supply was largely controlled and regulated by the big combine. Later, however, Mr. Major was deposed and the Gates-Bowers contingent came into power. The purchase of oil was discontinued and their great supply was thrown on the market, causing a 100-per-cent. decline. The late operations of the company have led to a loss, it is said, of between \$500,000 and \$2,000,000, either directly or indirectly through the policy pursued. The linseed-oil market follows closely the operations of the American company, and the policy of the new régime is being eagerly awaited by the trade. For the past three weeks the combine has been buying flax seed heavily at comparatively high prices.

A MEETING of the Dundee Branch of the British Medical Association was held in University College, Dundee, on November 21, to listen to the views of candidates for the position of representative to the General Medical Council. Dr. Templeton presided, and the meeting was addressed first by Dr. Bruce, of Dingwall, and afterwards by Dr. Robertson, of Glasgow, who spoke on the question of open shops. He contended that these had been established in Glasgow and the West of Scotland, and it was impossible to do away with them. Were a medical man to sit in his surgery and wait for patients, he would wait for a very long time. He criticised the recent actions by the Pharmaceutical Society, and said that Society should look more closely into its own affairs before criticising professional men. He contended that counter-prescribing by chemists and advertising in the windows of cures for almost any disease were evils which cried for redress. He also spoke on the injustice of the Council in refusing to receive a deputation from the West of Scotland regarding the sale of scheduled poisons, and spoke of the dissatisfaction caused in the profession thereby.